

POL

27 - 9

BIAFRA - NIGERIA

9-1-68

STATE DEPARTMENT SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

☐ Retain class'n ☐ Change/classify to _____
☒ Declassify ~~_____~~
EO 12958, 25X
FPC/HDR by SA Date: 3/18/96

Withdrawal No. _____

0619

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 954503
By	MN/ARA
Date	10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

47

UNCLASSIFIED 808

PAGE 01 LAGOS 12652 131946Z

81
ACTION AID 45

INFO RSR 01, SCSE 00, SCA 01, AF 07, IO 13, /067 W

R 131648Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2554
INFO US MISSION GENEVA 537

UNCLAS LAGOS 12652

AIDAC

TOAID 2970

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: SERVICES OF DR. FOEGE

REF: (A) LAGOS 12009 (TOAID 2801); (B) LAGOS 11865 (TOAID 2752)

JOINT EMBASSY/USAID MESSAGE

DR. BULLE RENEWED REQUEST FOEGE SERVICES AS ASSISTANT FIELD
COORDINATOR RELIEF OPERATIONS TO ICRC CHIEF DELEGATE SCHURCH
WHO WE UNDERSTAND IN AGREEMENT AND ASKING GENEVA FOR CONCURRENCE.
IF GENEVA ICRC CONCURS IN FOEGE APPOINTMENT, BULLE HAS RECOMMENDED
FORMAL REQUEST BE MADE THROUGH USAID TO CDC. EMBASSY/USAID STRONGLY
RECOMMEND MAKING FOEGE AVAILABLE.

REQUEST AID/W TAKE PRELIMINARY STEPS FACILITATE EARLIEST RELEASE
PENDING GENEVA APPROVAL. ADVISE PROCEDURE NECESSARY TO OBTAIN
RELEASE.

MATHEWS

Handwritten:
Lagos 12652
9-13-68

(1)

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By	MWARA
Date	10/3/05



Pal 27-9 Biafra-Nigeria
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43

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 154

PAGE 01 USUN N 06497 132320Z

92
ACTION IO 15

INFO AF 10, EUR 15, AID 28, ORM 03, SR 01, SAH 02, SA 01, NSA 02, CIAE 00,

DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25,

USIA 12, ACDA 16, SAL 01, RSR 01, SCS 04, SCA 02, /171 W

R 132201Z SEP 68
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3158
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE USUN 6497

NIGERIA

USUN 6445

1. SUSAN DURR, AMERICAN COMMITTEE TO KEEP BIAFRA ALIVE HAS
HANDLED MISOFF COPY OF CABLE SENT TO BOUMEDIENNE SEP 11 BY
HER COMMITTEE IN ASSOCIATION WITH COMMITTEE FOR NIGERIAN/
BIAFRA RELIEF (NEW YORK) AND BROTHER (BOSTON). INTERESTING
THAT CONVERSATION WITH DURR AND HER COLLEAGUES REVOLVED
PRIMARILY AROUND HOW COMMITTEE COULD HELP USG IN ITS
EFFORTS REACH SOLUTION TO NIGERIAN QUESTION.

2. FOL IS TEXT OF CABLE TO BOUMEDIENNE:

IT IS WITH PROFOUND RESPECT AND THE GREATEST ADMIRATION
FOR THE MEMBER NATIONS OF THE OAU, WHO REPRESENT TO THE WORLD
CLEAR INTENTION OF A UNITED, PEACEFUL AND INDEPENDENT AFRICA
THAT WE SUBMIT OUR DECLARATION OF DEEPEST CONCERN FOR THE PLIGHT
OF THE IGBO PEOPLE AND OTHER VICTIMS OF THE NIGERIAN/BIAFRA
CONFLICT.

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THE OAU CAN RESOLVE AND AFRICAN SITUATION TO WHICH THE WORLD HAS NOW DIRECTED ITS CONCERNED ATTENTION. THAT SITUATION HAS BEEN COMPOUNDED BY THE INTERVENTION OF OUTSIDE POWERS, WHO BY THEIR MISGUIDED EFFORTS HAVE BLOCKED THE POTENTIAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE OF THE WORLD TO FELLOW NATIONS AND PEOPLES IN AFRICA. WE DIRECT OUR CENSURE AT THESE POWERS AND SUBMIT A CALL FOR THAT CENSURE TO THE OAU.

IT IS ONLY BY INITIATING SUCH ACTION THAT THE OAU CAN FREE ITSELF TO UNDERTAKE ITS CONTINENTAL RESPONSIBILITY TO CIVILIAN VICTIMS OF THE WAR BY PROVIDING HUMANITARIAN RELIEF.

WE AS AMERICANS, HAVE DEMANDED UN ACTION THROUGH OUR OWN GOVERNMENT TO RELIEVE THE SUFFERINGS OF THE INNOCENT. THE INITIATIVE BELONGS IN JUSTICE AND FACT TO THE OAU; THUS WE HAVE AVOIDED UNDERTAKING ANY ACTION THAT DID NOT FIRST DIRECT ITSELF TO THE AUTHORITY OF THE OAU TO FIND A HUMANE SOLUTION.

IF IT IS WITHIN YOUR PROVINCE TO PROVIDE LEGITIMATE CHANNELS FOR MASSIVE RELIEF TO NIGERIANS AND THE PEOPLE OF BIAFRA, IT IS TO YOU THAT THE TASK WILL FALL. WE URGE AND PRAY THAT GENOCIDE WILL NOT DESTROY THE DIGNITY AND PROMISE OF AFRICA.

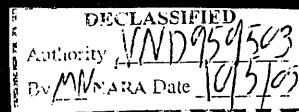
CHILDREN ARE THE FUTURE OF A UNITED AFRICA, AND IT IS CHILDREN WHO ARE DYING IN THE CONFLICT. DO NOT ALLOW THE FUTURE TO BE IMPAIRED BY THE LOSS OF SUBJUGATION OF A POPULATION WHICH CAN CONTRIBUTE MUCH TO A SECURE AND INDEPENDENT CONTINENT.

DECON ONE MONTH

PEDERSEN

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ORIGIN ACTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

Pol 27-9 Biafra-
NIGERIA
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RM/R	REP	AF
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ARA	EUR	FE
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	6	
TR	XMB	AIR
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ARMY	CIA	NAVY
3	20	5
OSD	USIA	NSA
34	10	3
HEW		MSC
7		6

20

A-1482
NO.

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HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : LAGOS, LONDON, US Mission GENEVA, USUN NEW YORK

SEP 15 11 00 AM 1968

FROM : Amembassy VIENNA

DATE: Sept 13, 1968

SUBJECT: Austrian Aid to Biafra

REF : Vienna 5146, A-1368, and A-1409
AP AF EUR

Following the appointment of Ambassador Breycha-Vauthier as a special emissary to expedite relief for Biafra, Foreign Minister Waldheim reported to the regular September 10 GOA Cabinet meeting on the mission. One result is an "effective relief committee for Biafra" which has been founded by private Austrian welfare and relief organizations. The group plans to dispatch to Biafra two medical teams each consisting of one doctor and four medical assistants. Although the relief committee is composed of representatives of the Austrian Red Cross, the Trade Union Federation, and other private organizations such as Caritas, and the funds (estimated at approximately AS 1.5 million) will be raised by these private organizations, the GOA has agreed to make available Austrian Army personnel who will be given temporary leave to form the medical teams.

MACARTHUR

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Drafted by:

POL:JDRendahl:etb

9/12/68

Contents and Classification Approved by:

POL:KPTSullivan

Clearances:

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By: MN NARA Date: 10/5/02

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

TR 500.3 RED Cross 23827.6

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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13 SEP 68 21 43Z

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Origin

ACTION: AmEmbassy LAGOS

INFO: American Mission, GENEVA

Info:

AmEmbassy, ADDIS ABABA

USUN ✓
Amembassy, LONDON

We learn through American Red Cross that ICRC President Gonard, ~~and~~ ^{and}
Henrik Beer, Secretary General of League of Red Cross Societies and
Lady Limerick, Vice President of League scheduled to arrive Lagos
September 14 at invitation Nigerian Red Cross.

End

RUSK

Dated by:

AF:CRM Moore:ehd 9/13/68

Tel. Ext.
5208Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

AF - C. Robert Moore

Clearance:

AF/W - Mr. Melbourne
(in substance)

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FORM
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Department of State

50C 3 RED CROSS

TELEGRAM

VR POL 27-9 BIAPRA-NIGERIA

CONFIDENTIAL 392

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04800 131541Z

44
ACTION IO 15

INFO EUR 15, AF 10, AID 28, SR 01, DRM 03, SCA 02, SCS 04, RSR 01, SAH 02,

CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,

SS 25, USIA 12, NSA 02, /153 W

R 131421Z SEP 68
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8877
AMEMBASSY LAGDS
INFO AMEMBASSY LDNDON
USUN NEW YORK 2368

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4800

SUBJ: LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES (LICROSS) AND NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: GENEVA 4674

1. LICROSS INFORMS THAT SECGEN HENRIK BEER DEPARTING GENEVA THIS
AFTERNOON FOR LAGOS FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH NIGERIAN RED CROSS
OFFICIALS.

2. NIGERIAN RC PRESIDENT ADEMOLA WAS IN GENEVA FOR COUPLE DAYS
BEGINNING SEPT AND CHAIRMAN OJO ATTENDED AUGUST 26-SEPT 7
MEETINGS OF LICROSS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. OJO APPEALED FOR MORE
LICROSS SUPPORT OF NIGERIAN RC AND LICROSS AGREED. NIGERIAN RC
INVITED BEER TO LAGOS FOR TALKS.

3. LICROSS OFFICIAL COMMENTED THAT WHILE BEER TALKS EXPECTED FOCUS
INITIALLY ON LICROSS SUPPORT OF NIGERIAN RC, EXPECTED EVENTUAL TAKING
OVER BY LICROSS OF PRESENT ICRC FUNCTION COORDINATING RELIEF FOR
VICTIMS HOSTILITIES WILL DOUBT COME UP FOR DISCUSSION.

4. AS REPORTED REFTTEL, LICROSS AND ICRC HAVE AGREED IN PRINCIPLE
ON LICROSS PARTICIPATION IN PRESENT CONFLICT SITUATION.
HOPEFULLY THEY WILL WORK CLOSELY TOGETHER ON PRESENT PROBLEMS AND
TOWARD EVENTUAL TRANSFER PRESENT ICRC ROLE TO LICROSS.

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GENEVA - 4800
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 Department of State **TELEGRAM**
 XR POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

CONFIDENTIAL 999

PAGE 01 LIBREV 01746 140939Z

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 ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, SAH 02, SR 01, ORM 03,

AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 02, RSR 01, /157 W

R 131325Z SEP 68
 FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1947
 INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
 AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
 AMEMBASSY LAGOS 514
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
 AMEMBASSY PARIS
 USMISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL LIBREVILLE 1746

REF: LIBREVILLE 1741 - POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

SUBJ: BIAFRAN AIRLIFT

1. THIRTY-THREE BIAFRAN CHILDREN ARRIVED LIBREVILLE LAST NIGHT SEPT 12 ON DCAE TR-LML. ALL CHILDREN AMBULATORY BUT SHOWED CLEAR SYMPTOMS OF KWASHIYOR. FRENCH RED CROSS DOCTOR PENNIC, WHO WAS IN BIAFRA AND ACCOMPANIED CHILDREN ON FLIGHT, SAID THEIR CONDITION SURPRISINGLY GOOD. CHILDREN CURRENTLY BEING HOUSED AND CARED FOR IN OLD UNUSED CATHOLIC CHURCH. PRIEST WAS ABLE HAVE 250 SIMPLE BEDS MADE FROM WELDED PIPE IN 4-DAY PERIOD.

2. CONSTELLATION F-BRAD AND TRANSUNION F-BOEX ALSO MADE FLIGHT BUT RETURNED EMPTY. APPARENTLY THERE CONSIDERABLE DISORDER AT BIAFRAN END.

3. DR. PENNIC AND PILOT OF TR-LML STATE ONLY ONE USABLE AIRSTRIP LEFT IN BIAFRA AND WOULD APPEAR CONFLICT VERY NEAR END. IN CONTRAST IS COMMENT BY TRANSGABON DIRECTOR COLLET,

(2)

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Libreville 1746
9-13-68



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WHO CLOSE TO AIRLIFT OPERATION, THAT THOUGH TWO WEEKS AGO
BIAFRAN SITUATION EXTREMELY GRAVE IT NOW MUCH BETTER BE-
CAUSE ARMS SUPPLY IMPROVED.
GP-3 NELSON

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POL 27-9 BIARRA-NIGERIA
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ACTION AID 28

INFO IO 13, SCA 02, GPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 25, RSC 01, L 03, H 02, P 04

USIA 12, AF 10, INR 07, RSR 01, /124 W

R 131544Z SEP 68
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8887

UNCLAS GENEVA 4813

AID FOR DRC AND OFFICE PRIVATE RESOURCES/VOLAG DIVISION

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

1. UNICEF REP HANDLING ICRC-UNICEF LIAISON PRAISES AID DISASTER MEMO 6 ON NIGERIA (RECEIVED FROM UNICEF NEW YORK) AND REQUESTS FIVE EXTRA COPIES.
2. INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL VOLUNTARY AGENCIES MIGHT ALSO USE COPIES.
3. MISSION REQUESTS 20 COPIES BY AIR POUCH (ATTENTION RMRC) FOR DISTRIBUTION AS ABOVE.
4. DOES AID EXPECT UPDATE MEMO PERIODICALLY? TUBBY

GENEVA-4813
9-1568

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
XK POL 15 NIGERIA
Department of State TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 12633 132011Z

81
ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SR 01, ORM 03, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07,
L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, NSA 02, RSR 01, AID 28,
SCS 04, SCA 02, /155 W

R 131543Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2544
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA UNN
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
UFNRS/AMEMBASSY ALGIERS 53
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA UNN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA UNN
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY UNN
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE UNN
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
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UNCLAS LAGOS 12633

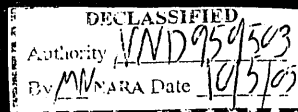
SUBJECT: NIGERIAN PRESS ROUND-UP SEPTEMBER 13

1. ALGIERS: POST, TIMES, PILOT, SKETCH AND TRIBUNE ALL CARRY REUTERS-BASED REPORTS ON ALGIERS SUMMIT RESOLUTIONS AND DELEGATION ARRIVALS. POST, TIMES AND PILOT IN OTHER ARTICLES REPORT SENGHOR LETTER TO GOWON PLEDGING SANEAGALESE SUPPORT AT ALGIERS; TSIRBNANA PARIS STATEMENTS THAT MADAGASCAR SUPPORTS FMG AND STATEMENT BY DIORI THAT FIVE NATIONS OF CONSEIL DE LENTENTE HAD DISCUSSED NIGERIAN CRISIS AND REACHED QTE COMMON STAND UNQTE FOR ALGIERS SUMMIT.

2. PILOT AND NEWS REPORT ARIKPO STATEMENTS ON ALGIERS TELEVISION SEPT 11 THAT IMMEDIATE GOAL OF FMG IS REHABILITATION AP WELL AS STATEMENT THAT CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY WILL BE APPOINTED TO DRAFT NEW

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 12633 132011Z

CONSTITUTION AND ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR ELECTED GOVERNMENT AS SOON AS WAR IS OVER.

2. WAR: A. POST AND SKETCH REPORT CAPTURE OF OGUTA BY FMG. PREVIOUS REPORTS OF CAPTURE HAD REFERRED TO OIL FIELDS WHICH WERE ONE MILE OUTSIDE TOWN. POST AND TIMES REPORT ICRC NIGHT FLIGHTS HALVED IN NUMBER BECAUSE OF FMG ADVANCE WHICH BRINGS FORCES TO WITHIN FIFTY MILES OF ULI-IHIALA AIRSTRIIP AND BECAUSE TORRENTIAL RAINS HAVE REPORTEDLY CAUSED FLOODING AT OBILAGO AIRSTRIIP.

B. POST REPORTS THAT 24 REBEL SOLDIERS WHO SURRENDERED NEAR ABA HAVE JOINED FMG ARMY AND ARE SERVING IN 3RD DIVISION UNDER ADEKUNLE. TWO, WHO HAD BEEN IN NIGERIAN ARMY BEFORE SECESSION AND WERE BIAFRAN OFFICERS, WERE MADE LIEUTENANTS.

3. RELIEF AND REHABILITATION: TIMES AND POST CARRY PICTURE REPORTS OF MILITARY PASSING OUT FOOD AND SUPPLIES TO REFUGEES IN AREAS RECENTLY RETAKEN IN SOUTHERN PART OF EAST CENTRAL STATE. TIMES CARRY PICTURE OF ONE OF TWO UNICEF HELICOPTERS WHICH WILL BE USED FROM CALABAR BASE TO CARRY FOOD AND RELIEF SUPPLIES TO NEEDY IN AREA. POST CARRIES REPORT BY CHAIRMAN OF SOUTH EASTERN STATE REHABILITATION COMMITTEE, ANDREW BASSEY, ON DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD AND OTHER RELIEF SUPPLIES IN SOUTHERN AREAS OF STATE, FOR PERIOD APRIL-AUGUST 1968. TIMES AND SKETCH PUBLISH PICTURE AND SHORT REPORT OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT TO NIGERIAN RED CROSS BY NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR ON BEHALF OF NORWEGIAN RED CROSS.

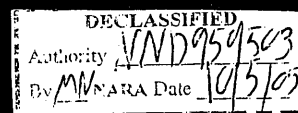
4. OBSERVERS: POST, SKETCH AND TIMES REPORT ARRIVAL SEPT 12 OF BRITISH OBSERVER, MAJOR GENERAL ARTHUR RAAB, WILL ARRIVE SEPT 14 BUT CANADA, POLAND, UN AND OAU STILL HAVE NOT NAMED OBSERVERS.

5. BRITAIN: TIMES, PILOT, SKETCH AND POST REPORT LETTER TO LONDON BY BRITISH LABOR MP, E.L. MALLALIEU, CALLING ON OJUKWU AND REBELS TO GIVE UP SECESSION AND AGREEING WITH DAME MARGERY PERHAM STATEMENTS THAT FMG IS NOT COMMITTING GENOCIDE AGAINST IBOS.

6. NORWAY: TIMES AND POST REPORT STATEMENT BY NORWEGIAN PRIME MINISTER THAT NORWAY BELIEVED IT UNWISE TO RECOGNIZE BIAFRA IN VIEW OF PRESENT MILITARY SITUATION.
MATHEWS

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0630



63
September 18, 1963

Honorable Joseph M. Montoya
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Montoya:

I have received your recent inquiry regarding the situation in Nigeria.

As President Johnson noted on July 11, "the American people have watched with growing grief and horror the terrible loss of life and suffering in Nigeria." This tragic civil war is rooted in tribal and regional animosities which can not be exclusively blamed on either side.

The United States Government is actively participating in the international relief effort coordinated by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The following provides information on the nature of the relief problem and the operations of the ICRC, including the contributions from the United States and other countries thus far.

The area in Nigeria requiring relief includes the whole of the former Eastern Region, which proclaimed itself the Republic of Biafra in May 1967, as well as certain areas of the present Mid-West State. The Federal Government now controls militarily about two-thirds of the former Eastern Region. According to the estimates of the ICRC, the Federal Military Government, and USAID there are 3 million in need of high protein dietary supplements in the Biafran area and 750,000 in need in the Federal controlled area. There are no reliable figures on the death rate, but it is estimated very roughly at 200-400 per day. Reports of 6,000 deaths a day appear greatly exaggerated. The persons hardest hit by the crisis are children, pregnant mothers and the aged.

The ICRC has been able to mount relief operations in the Federal controlled areas in tandem with the Nigerian Red Cross and voluntary agencies such as the Catholic Relief Services and Lutheran World Relief. However, in some areas of acute need such as the southeastern town of Ikot Ekpene, the Red Cross has been forced to withdraw temporarily because of continued fighting. In the areas where it can operate safely, the Red Cross has placed medical distribution teams and is conveying supplies to them.

① The most serious problem exists in the Biafran controlled area. In the absence of agreement by both parties on the means of bringing in supplies, relief has been coming in only in small amounts through direct airlift from the offshore islands of Sao Tome and Fernando Po.

RECEIVED BY 62/A

PPS/PCD L Rushfield

Pol 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria

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Authority WND 954563
By MWA Date 10/5/03

- 2 -

The ICRC, Church World Services, Caritas and other charitable organizations have chartered nighttime flights which have encountered the hazards of the rainy season, inadequate landing facilities, and occasional ground fire.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has been involved in relief for Nigeria since early 1968. In July it named Ambassador Auguste Lindt, former Swiss Ambassador to Moscow, to head the overall relief operation. Ambassador Lindt has visited both the Biafran and Federal areas of need and is thoroughly aware of the dimensions of the problem. In Federal territory the Chairman of the Nigerian Red Cross is Director of Relief Action and provides liaison between the Nigerian Red Cross and the ICRC. Under him is the ICRC Chief of Operations. The ICRC directs its own medical distribution teams, which work with local Red Cross Societies, missionaries and voluntary aid detachments. There are now 11 relief teams in Nigeria and the ICRC plans to have 30 teams by September 30.

In Biafra the ICRC representative provides a direct link between the Biafran Government and the ICRC headquarters in Geneva. There are a few Red Cross personnel now in Biafra, who, with the assistance of the strong Eastern family system and the existing missionary network, are distributing what supplies now reach Biafra. The ICRC is putting together 10 mobile distribution teams and 2 public health teams for deployment to Biafra when the relief routes open.

The ICRC has received contributions in cash and commodities amounting to many millions of dollars from 34 countries. The United Kingdom has allocated £250,000 for Nigerian relief. The German Red Cross has allocated 25 Mercedes trucks to the ICRC. Norway, for example, has provided 2,800 tons of stockfish, previously a basic food for the Eastern Nigerians. The US is the largest donor.

Throughout the summer adequate distribution to Biafra has been held up by the failure of both sides to agree on the means of bringing in relief supplies. The Federal Military Government has basically insisted on the establishment of overland relief corridors transiting Federal territory, while the Biafrans have called for a direct airlift of supplies. The ICRC believes that the only way to bring in sufficient relief supplies is through overland corridors; but it has also sought the designation of a Biafran airstrip for its exclusive use to augment and expedite the flow of supplies.

On September 3, after lengthy negotiations with the Red Cross, the Federal Military Government announced that it had agreed to permit the ICRC, as an emergency measure, to fly relief supplies directly into Biafran territory from the Spanish island of Fernando Po for a ten-day

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Date	10/5/03

period beginning September 5. These flights would take place during the daylight hours. In return, the ICRC agreed to use its influence and to take appropriate steps to make it possible to move food and other relief supplies along land corridors. We hope that this agreement will be implemented, and that it is the forerunner of a more lasting agreement which would include the badly needed ground or river relief corridors that are needed to bring adequate supplies into Biafra.

Ambassador C. Robert Moore, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, recently headed a US delegation to Geneva for urgent consultations with the ICRC and other organizations concerned with relief. Ambassador Moore and his colleagues report that the International Committee of the Red Cross has a keen awareness of the gravity and magnitude of the problem and is taking vigorous steps to meet it. In this connection, it has considerably augmented the assignment of personnel and the acquisition of equipment to move and distribute relief supplies, as well as to help care for the suffering. As a result of Ambassador Moore's consultations, plans have been made by the United States Government to step up its assistance to the war-affected area, and also to support a food pipeline which would maintain stockpiles at Enugu, Calabar, Fernando Po and Lagos in the expectation of full-scale early movement of supplies to the suffering.

The United States Government, the largest donor, has contributed a total of \$8.8 million to this effort in cash and surplus food commodities. Of this total, \$1.1 million has been contributed to the International Red Cross. In June, \$100,000 was given to ICRC as a cash donation. In July, an additional \$1 million was provided ICRC as a reserve fund to draw on in financing urgent requirements of the relief effort.

In addition, the US Government has approved about \$7 million in PL 480 surplus food (dry milk, bulgur, high-protein blended food products and edible oil totaling over 21,340 tons) as donations to voluntary relief agencies for distribution throughout Nigeria. The Catholic Relief Services is receiving \$2.6 million of these foods; UNICEF is obtaining the balance of \$4.3 million. About 3,000 tons of the total food tonnage has now arrived in Nigeria; 6,000 tons left US shores this month with other shipments to follow.

The US Government has also provided \$360,000 to its AID Mission in Lagos to help finance other relief needs. These have included the cost of two airlifts of 60 tons of ICRC relief supplies from Europe to Lagos; the purchase of four trucks to be used for internal distribution; the purchase of US drugs and cloth for clothing; other relief needs; and the overseas transport cost of relief supplies donated by American voluntary agencies over and above \$310,000 already provided by AID from a general world-wide appropriation for this purpose.

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By <i>MW NARA</i> Date <i>10/5/01</i>

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Apart from US Government contributions, the private voluntary organizations of the US have made substantial donations of food and other supplies totaling about \$2.7 million on behalf of the relief effort. The American organizations active in providing relief include the Lutheran World Relief, Catholic Relief Services, Church World Service, Seventh Day Adventists, American Red Cross, the Ford Foundation and CARE. As indicated, the US Government often pays the overseas transportation costs of the relief shipments by the accredited American voluntary agencies.

Summary:

US Government	\$ 8,758,000
US Private Organizations	\$ 2,686,000
Total	\$11,444,000

Please call upon me whenever I may be of assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,



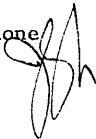
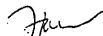
William B. Macomber, Jr.
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

P/PS/PCD:LHRushfield:pj

H # Phone

lang.prev.clrd.

9/11/68



0634

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VIND 9501503
By M/M NARA Date 10/5/03

03
September 18, 1968

Honorable Thaddeus Dulski
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Congressman Dulski:

I have received your recent inquiry regarding the situation in Nigeria.

As President Johnson noted on July 11, "the American people have watched with growing grief and horror the terrible loss of life and suffering in Nigeria." This tragic civil war is rooted in tribal and regional animosities which can not be exclusively blamed on either side.

The United States Government is actively participating in the international relief effort coordinated by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The following provides information on the nature of the relief problem and the operations of the ICRC, including the contributions from the United States and other countries thus far.

The area in Nigeria requiring relief includes the whole of the former Eastern Region, which proclaimed itself the Republic of Biafra in May 1967, as well as certain areas of the present Mid-West State. The Federal Government now controls militarily about two-thirds of the former Eastern Region. According to the estimates of the ICRC, the Federal Military Government, and USAID there are 3 million in need of high protein dietary supplements in the Biafran area and 750,000 in need in the Federal controlled area. There are no reliable figures on the death rate, but it is estimated very roughly at 200-400 per day. Reports of 6,000 deaths a day appear greatly exaggerated. The persons hardest hit by the crisis are children, pregnant mothers and the aged.

The ICRC has been able to mount relief operations in the Federal controlled areas in tandem with the Nigerian Red Cross and voluntary agencies such as the Catholic Relief Services and Lutheran World Relief. However, in some areas of acute need such as the southeastern town of Ikot Ekpene, the Red Cross has been forced to withdraw temporarily because of continued fighting. In the areas where it can operate safely, the Red Cross has placed medical distribution teams and is conveying supplies to them.

The most serious problem exists in the Biafran controlled area. In the absence of agreement by both parties on the means of bringing in supplies, relief has been coming in only in small amounts through

1
MICROFILMED BY D/S

P/PS/PCD L Rushfield

Pol 21-a Biafra-Nigeria

0635

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND954503
By	MW/ARA
Date	10/5/03

- 2 -

direct airlift from the offshore islands of Sao Tome and Fernando Po. The ICRC, Church World Services, Caritas and other charitable organizations have chartered nighttime flights which have encountered the hazards of the rainy season, inadequate landing facilities, and occasional ground fire.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has been involved in relief for Nigeria since early 1968. In July it named Ambassador Auguste Lindt, former Swiss Ambassador to Moscow, to head the overall relief operation. Ambassador Lindt has visited both the Biafran and Federal areas of need and is thoroughly aware of the dimensions of the problem. In Federal territory the Chairman of the Nigerian Red Cross is Director of Relief Action and provides liaison between the Nigerian Red Cross and the ICRC. Under him is the ICRC Chief of Operations. The ICRC directs its own medical distribution teams, which work with local Red Cross Societies, missionaries and voluntary aid detachments. There are now 11 relief teams in Nigeria and the ICRC plans to have 30 teams by September 30.

In Biafra the ICRC representative provides a direct link between the Biafran Government and the ICRC headquarters in Geneva. There are a few Red Cross personnel now in Biafra, who, with the assistance of the strong Eastern family system and the existing missionary network, are distributing what supplies now reach Biafra. The ICRC is putting together 10 mobile distribution teams and 2 public health teams for deployment to Biafra when the relief routes open.

The ICRC has received contributions in cash and commodities amounting to many millions of dollars from 34 countries. The United Kingdom has allocated £250,000 for Nigerian relief. The German Red Cross has allocated 25 Mercedes trucks to the ICRC. Norway, for example, has provided 2,800 tons of stockfish, previously a basic food for the Eastern Nigerians. The US is the largest donor.

Throughout the summer adequate distribution to Biafra has been held up by the failure of both sides to agree on the means of bringing in relief supplies. The Federal Military Government has basically insisted on the establishment of overland relief corridors transiting Federal territory, while the Biafrans have called for a direct airlift of supplies. The ICRC believes that the only way to bring in sufficient relief supplies is through overland corridors; but it has also sought the designation of a Biafran airstrip for its exclusive use to augment and expedite the flow of supplies.

On September 3, after lengthy negotiations with the Red Cross, the Federal Military Government announced that it had agreed to permit the ICRC, as an emergency measure, to fly relief supplies directly into

0636

DECLASSIFIED
Authority <i>WVD 954503</i>
By <i>MW</i> Date <i>10/5/03</i>

Biafran territory from the Spanish island of Fernando Po for a ten-day period beginning September 5. These flights would take place during the daylight hours. In return, the ICRC agreed to use its influence and to take appropriate steps to make it possible to move food and other relief supplies along land corridors. We hope that this agreement will be implemented, and that it is the forerunner of a more lasting agreement which would include the badly needed ground or river relief corridors that are needed to bring adequate supplies into Biafra.

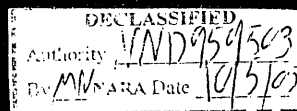
Ambassador C. Robert Moore, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, recently headed a US delegation to Geneva for urgent consultations with the ICRC and other organizations concerned with relief. Ambassador Moore and his colleagues report that the International Committee of the Red Cross has a keen awareness of the gravity and magnitude of the problem and is taking vigorous steps to meet it. In this connection, it has considerably augmented the assignment of personnel and the acquisition of equipment to move and distribute relief supplies, as well as to help care for the suffering. As a result of Ambassador Moore's consultations, plans have been made by the United States Government to step up its assistance to the war-affected area, and also to support a food pipeline which would maintain stockpiles at Enugu, Calabar, Fernando Po and Lagos in the expectation of full-scale early movement of supplies to the suffering.

The United States Government, the largest donor, has contributed a total of \$8.8 million to this effort in cash and surplus food commodities. Of this total, \$1.1 million has been contributed to the International Red Cross. In June, \$100,000 was given to ICRC as a cash donation. In July, an additional \$1 million was provided ICRC as a reserve fund to draw on in financing urgent requirements of the relief effort.

In addition, the US Government has approved about \$7 million in PL 480 surplus food (dry milk, bulgur, high-protein blended food products and edible oil totaling over 21,340 tons) as donations to voluntary relief agencies for distribution throughout Nigeria. The Catholic Relief Services is receiving \$2.6 million of these foods; UNICEF is obtaining the balance of \$4.3 million. About 3,000 tons of the total food tonnage has now arrived in Nigeria; 6,000 tons left US shores this month with other shipments to follow.

The US Government has also provided \$360,000 to its AID Mission in Lagos to help finance other relief needs. These have included the cost of two airlifts of 60 tons of ICRC relief supplies from Europe to Lagos; the purchase of four trucks to be used for internal distribution; the

0637



- 4 -

purchase of US drugs and cloth for clothing; other relief needs; and the overseas transport cost of relief supplies donated by American voluntary agencies over and above \$310,000 already provided by AID from a general world-wide appropriation for this purpose.

Apart from US Government contributions, the private voluntary organizations of the US have made substantial donations of food and other supplies totaling about \$2.7 million on behalf of the relief effort. The American organizations active in providing relief include the Lutheran World Relief, Catholic Relief Services, Church World Service, Seventh Day Adventists, American Red Cross, the Ford Foundation and CARE. As indicated, the US Government often pays the overseas transportation costs of the relief shipments by the accredited American voluntary agencies.

Summary:

US Government	\$ 8,758,000
US Private Organizations	\$ 2,686,000
Total	\$11,444,000

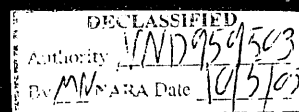
I hope the foregoing information will be helpful to you in replying to your constituent.

Sincerely yours,

W
William B. Macomber, Jr.
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

P/PS/PCD:LHRushfield:gas H #Phone 9/13/68

0638



WP

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

236895

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

12 SEP 68 11 19z

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin
Info:

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS PRIORITY

INFO : Amembassy ADDIS ABABA
" LONDON
US Mission GENEVA
" NEW YORK

Subj: Nigeria; Congressional Hearing

1. Assistant Secretary Palmer testified today in Executive Session before Senator McCarthy's African Sub-Committee of Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Nigeria-Biafra war and relief effort. Also present were Senator Gore and Senator Hickenlooper. Mr. Palmer's opening statement, which put current conflict in wider African perspective and described magnitude and complexity of political and humanitarian problems involved, was apparently well received. There were no critical questions, nor were any suggestions made for changes in US policy. Senator McCarthy made no reference to his earlier call for a QTE temporary division of Nigeria UNQTE until conflict was settled. Mr. Palmer, in his opening statement, pointed out problems of raising Nigerian question in UN while OAU was still seized of problem. Senator McCarthy appeared to accept this, since he did not renew his earlier call for immediate UN action on humanitarian question.

2. According to press reports, Senator McCarthy ~~has~~ later told reporters he thinks US is QTE probably doing all it can UNQTE to provide food to

5

Drafted by: AF:AFW:RPSmith:ba 9/11/68	Tel. Ext. 6402	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: Roy M. Palmer <i>Palmer</i> Nigerian Task Force
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Clearances:

AF-Mr. Palmer (sub) *Palmer*

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0639

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: *VND 954503*
By: *MM* Date: *10/5/00*

Page 2 of telegram to LAGOS, ADDIS ABABA, LONDON, GENEVA, USUN

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

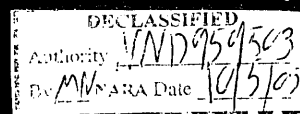
starving, but added that he is not sure administration is making sufficient effort to bring about peaceful settlement of war. (There was no such doubt expressed during the course of hearing.)

3. Dept. appreciates most helpful and timely info reported by addressees. Text Palmer's statement, which being released here September 12, being pouched.

RUSK

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

0640



(11)

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

XR POL 7 GABON

237180

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12 SEP 68 20 22Z

FOR OCIT USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LIBREVILLE PRIORITY
Amembassy ABIDJAN PRIORITY

Info:

INFO: Amembassy LAGOS
Amembassy LONDON
Amembassy PARIS

SUBJECT: BIAFRAN ORPHAN AIRLIFT

REF: LIBREVILLE 1725 and 1738

1. Before we can assess possibility of providing assistance, ~~children~~ if asked, to children /airlifted from Biafra we require information on details of airlift, numbers, where children will be sheltered and role of French in this operation.
2. We assume that Bongo visit to Abidjan may include appeal for greater assistance Biafran relief operation and therefore request information on any indication that GOIC, which obviously has much better facilities, may participate.
3. Posts are cautioned not give impression that USG/planning enter these in Gabon; now into/relief activities; therefore hope you can collect information without arousing undue speculation or expectation.

GP-3

END

RUSK

(6)

Drafted by: AF/CW:WSCI:km 9/12/68 Tel. Ext. 5127 Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AF/CW:WES:chaufele

Clearances: AF/W:GBS:Sheddy
Nigerian Task Force - Mr. Melbourne

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0641

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: VND 9549503
By: MWA/ARA Date: 10/5/05

66
OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

Origin	ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS	PRIORITY
Info:	INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA	PRIORITY
	" LONDON	"
	USMission GENEVA	"
	USUN	"

STATE _____

REF: Geneva 4744, Lagos 12371 and Lagos 12559

SUBJECT: ICRC and Nigerian Relief

1. Failure of Lindt effort to obtain Biafran agreement daytime ICRC flights deeply disappointing. We have received no rundown on Biafran objections nor of Lindt's reaction to FMG alternative proposal that ICRC assume public responsibility that only its planes would land at Uli during daylight hours. We also disturbed by lack of signs of earlier ICRC intention to proceed with land corridor project but only of concentration on night flights to two airfields in Biafra.
2. While Lindt in Lagos request Embassy appointment with him to learn details of his negotiation in Biafra, problems he encountered in seeking to obtain agreement, and his estimate of prospects for implementing daylight flights or similar agreement. Lindt also should be asked when he intends proceed with possible land corridor arrangements in view urgency and magnitude of relief need.
3. ICRC in past has agreed that world's humanitarian objective to feed and treat starving requires use of land corridor and that air relief flights can only

5
Drafted by: *RMM*
AFW:RMM/emb 9/11/68
Nigerian Task Force
Tel. Ext. 2619
Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AF - Joseph Palmer 2nd *Rm*
Clearances: AF - Ambassador Moore *Rm*

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

236802

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0642

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: VMD 954503
By: MVA Date: 10/5/05

Page ~ . telegram to LAGOS PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

supplement bulk transport by land. Lindt may consider there no present alternative to palliative of ICRC night flights from Fernando Po. We believe, however, point has been reached where neither ICRC nor USG can afford to relax efforts to pursue all possibilities of moving food supplies into Biafran territory. Embassy should seek to convince Lindt of this and urge him to take prompt steps which would force confrontation with Biafrans on ground analogous to tactic he employed with FMG in getting their agreement to temporary daylight airlift. We recognize that he would wish develop with FMG reasonable safeguards against possible FMG abuse of such route to reassure Biafrans.

4. We, of course, do not know whether Lindt is prepared to request FMG for some modification of airlift agreement to meet Biafran objections. At same time we believe ICRC would be in stronger impartial position in also pressing for land route.

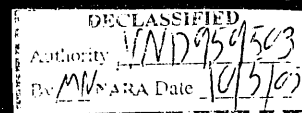
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CONFIDENTIAL

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37



POL 27-9 BIAFRA NIGERIA
 Department of State **TELEGRAM**

7

CONFIDENTIAL 155

PAGE 01 ABIDJA 04277 121009Z

22
ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SCS 04, SCA 02, PC 04, SR 01, ORM 03, SAH 02, AID 28,
 CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
 RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, RSR 01, 159 W

P R 120820Z SEP 68
 FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2928
 INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
 AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
 USMISSION GENEVA
 AMEMBASSY LAGOS
 AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 4277

REF: STATE 235345

1. UNABLE SEE HOUPHOUET UNTIL LAST NIGHT BECAUSE TUF ENTENTE
 SUMMIT. CITING PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S LETTER OF AUG 5, I SAID WE HAD
 CONTINUED WORKING FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION NIGERIAN PROBLEM,
 PRESSING FMG FOR REASONABLE COMPROMISE. THEN ALONG LINES REFTEL
 SPOKE OF OUR RECENT EFFORTS, ALONG WITH OTHER EMBASSIES IN LAGOS, TO
 SUPPORT COOPERATION WITH ICRC TO SECURE CORRIDORS FOR RELIEF

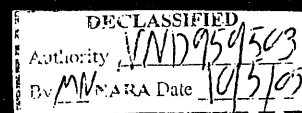
SUPPLIES TO BIAFRANS. ASKED WHETHER HOUPHOUET HAD BEEN SIMILARLY
 ACTIVE ON HIS SIDE.

2. HE SAID HE HAD TRIED REPEATEDLY TO INFLUENCE BIAFRANS TO AGREE
 ON RELIEF CORRIDORS AND DIORI HAD TRIED LIKEWISE WITH FMG.
 HOUPHOUET CORDIALLY AGREED THAT HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS SHOULD
 TAKE PRECEDENCE OVER MILITARY. WE LEFT IT THAT WE WOULD KEEP ON
 TRYING AS BEST WE COULD. HOUPHOUET SAID ENTENTE CHIEFS OF STATE
 AT OUAGADOUGOU HAD AGREED TO CONTINUE EFFORTS WITH BOTH SIDES AT
 ALGIERS. THIS WOULD BE DONE BEHIND THE SCENES, HOWEVER, RATHER THAN
 IN OAU MEETING, TO AVOID ANTAGONIZING THOSE WHO REGARD PROBLEM AS
 INTERNAL NIGERIAN AFFAIR.

GP-4. MORGAN

CONFIDENTIAL

0644



Abidjan 4277
 9-12-68

(11)



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
xr POL 3 OAU
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

7

CONFIDENTIAL 156

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02576 121004Z

12
ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SAH 02, ORM 03, SR 01, AID 28, PC 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00,
GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25,
USIA 12, E 15, SAL 01, SA 01, RSR 01, SCA 02, SCS 04, /187 W

P R 120935Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIOR
Y 3181
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
US MISSION GENEVA 97

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2576

SUBJ: BIAFRA

REF: STATE 235345

EFFECTIVE LOCUS OF ACTION FOR GRZ HAS SHIFTED TO ALGIERS
WITH DEPARTURE OF KAUNDA, FONMIN KAMANGA, MINSTATE FOREIGN
AFFAIRS MAKASA AND PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL ASST MARK CHONA.
AFTER WAITING FOR TWO DAYS FOR MFA PERMSEC MULIKITA RECOVER
FROM ILLNESS, DECIDED TODAY TO LEAVE AIDE-MEMOIRE INCORPORATING
PARAS 1 AND 2 OF REFTEL WITH MFA ASST SECTY. WISH TO REPEAT
BELIEVE IT MOST UNLIKELY GRZ WILL INITIATE ANY ACTION THIS SUBJECT
FROM LUSAKA. POSSIBLY DEPT MAY WISH APPROACH FONMIN
KAMANGA IN ALGIERS.
GOOD

MICROFILMED BY RS/A

(2)

CONFIDENTIAL

0645

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 954503
By	MMARA
Date	10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

XK POL 16 BIAFRA

CONFIDENTIAL 762

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02583 121824Z

45
ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, ID 13, AID 28, ACDA 16, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, CIAE 00,
DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 25, USIA 12, RSR 01, /169 W

P R 121440Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3185
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
US MISSION GENEVA 98

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2583

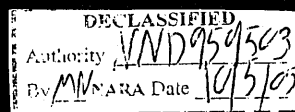
SUBJ: BIAFRA

REF: (A) LUSAKA 2576; (B) STATE 235345

1.
EMBOFF DELIVERED AIDE-MEMOIRE DRAFTED ALONG LINES PARA 1
AND 2 OF REF (B) TO MFA ASSISTANT SECRETARY NGONDA AFTERNOON
SEPTEMBER 12, SUPPLEMENTING THIS WITH ORAL PRESENTATION POINTS
IN PARA 39
TDLUIK NGONDA WAS MORE FORTHCOMING THAN USUAL RUN OF GRZ OFFICIALS,
POSSIBLY BECAUSE OF RECENT RETURN FROM ASSIGNMENT TO ZAMBIAN
EMBASSY WASHINGTON. HE RECEIVED USG APPROACH WITH APPRECIATION
AND MADE FOLLOWING COMMENTS:
A. POSSIBLE GRZ ACTION DEPENDENT ON DEVELOPMENTS AT OAU
CONFERENCE IN ALGIERS WHERE GRZ INTENDS RAISE MATTER AS MAJOR
SUBJECT.
B. PRESIDENT KAUNDA WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS
OBTAIN SUPPORT
FOR BIAFRA AT PARIS TALKS WITH GENERAL DE GAULLE. GRZ

CONFIDENTIAL

0646





Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 LUSAKA 02583 121824Z

RECENTLY SENT "NEW REQUEST" TO FRENCH ASKING THEM (1) CONSIDER RECOGNITION BIAFRA AND (2) OFFER ALL RELIEF SUPPORT POSSIBLE WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO MEDICAL SUPPLIES. NO REPLY YET RECEIVED TO THIS REQUEST.

C. GRZ CURRENTLY HAS "ONE OR TWO" MISSIONS OUT SEEKING SUPPORT FOR BIAFRA.

3. NGONDA CONTINUED DISCUSSION BY MAKING LENGTHY STATEMENT OF GRZ MOTIVES IN BIAFRAN AFFAIR AND EXPRESSING FERVENT HOPE USG WILL "SOONER OR LATER" SEE WAY CLEAR TO OFFERING MORE CONSTRUCTIVE SUPPORT TO BIAFRA AND HER FRIENDS IN ORDER ELIMINATE THIS TRAGEDY.
EXEMPT FROM AUTOMATIC DECONTROL
GOOD

CONFIDENTIAL

0647

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 9501503
By	MNARA
Date	10/3/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

LoL 27-9 Biafra Nigeria

UNCLASSIFIED 947

(35) PAGE 01 DAKAR 03848 121934Z

91
ACTION AF 16

INFO IO 13, SCSE 00, SCA 02, SA 01, SAH 02, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, PC 04,
EUR 15, P 04, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10,
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, NSA 02, RSR 01, /158 W

R 121100Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2899
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS DAKAR 3848
REF: DAKAR'S 3776

PRESIDENT SENEGALESE RED CROSS RITO ALCANTARA, WHO JUST RE-
TURNED FROM RED CROSS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING GENEVA
SEPTEMBER 4-7, SAID AT PRESS CONFERENCE THAT PRIVATE SENE-
GALESE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR BIAFRA THUS FAR TOTALLED 1,600,000
FRANCS (\$6,400). MONEY WOULD BE USED TO PROVIDE DRIED FISH,
TUNA, SOAP, CLOTH, ETC., WHICH WOULD BE LOADED ONTO RED CROSS
PLANES AT SEND OF SEPTEMBER.
ANDREWS

*Amber 3848
9.12.68*

0648

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 950503
By MVA Date 10/5/05

46

29/12

SEPTEMBER 12, 1968

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-
NIGERIA

Dear Congressman Irwin:

I have received your letter of August 23 concerning your August 22 letter to Mr. Roy Melbourne on the Nigerian problem. You should have by now my letter of August 29 in response to the latter communication.

We have just received further information on the situation which might be of interest to you. On September 3, the Federal Military Government of Nigeria agreed to a proposal of the International Committee of the Red Cross for regular daytime relief flights into Biafra for a period of ten days beginning on September 5. We hope that this agreement will be the forerunner of a more lasting one, and lead promptly to the establishment of land or river relief corridors which are still needed to bring adequate amounts of relief supplies to Biafra. A copy of the Nigerian Government press announcement of the agreement and a status report on the relief situation are enclosed.

I hope that the foregoing information and the enclosures are helpful. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

WBM

William B. Macomber, Jr.
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

Enclosures:
As stated.

The Honorable
Donald J. Irwin,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C. 20515.

AF/AFW:FMTucker:vcs:9/4/68
Clearances:

Nigeria Task Force: RMMelbourne
H: Mr. Leahy AF - CRM Moore

POL 27-9 BIAFRA- NIGERIA

RECEIVED BY R/A

①

0649

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: VMD 959503
By: MNP/ARA Date: 10/5/00

URGENT

A CONGRESSIONAL

FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

August 23, 1968

1023 LONGWORTH OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C.
PHONE: 225-5541

DANIEL E. REED, JR.
DISTRICT COORDINATOR
866-3325

DISTRICT OFFICES:

STAMFORD
ROOM 301
1 BANK STREET
PHONE: 348-4265

NORWALK
PHONE: 866-9271

BRIDGEPORT
ROOM 841
855 MAIN STREET
PHONE: 335-1646

ACTION
is assigned to

AT

Mr. William Macomber
Congressional Liaison
State Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Bill:

I hope that the appended letter addressed to
Mr. Roy Melbourne will receive some consideration.

I am not just passing this on to Mr. Melbourne to
get rid of it. In fact Mr. Schafler spoke to me about
his suggestion only in passing and does not expect to
hear further from me on it. I just think that he has
a very good idea---and one whose positive ramifications
could go far beyond the Biafra situation.

Sincerely,

15265

Irwin
Donald J. Irwin

DJI:ra

RECEIVED
AUG 29 1968
AF

Encatt.
Norman Schafler

OFFICE OF THE ASST.
SECRETARY--AF

Col 27-9
1968 AUG 3 PM 2 48
Biafra - Nigerian

2
8/29/68

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DECLASSIFIED
Authority *VND 954503*
By *MN* NARA Date *10/5/05*



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State

TELEGRAM

9-11-68
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CONFIDENTIAL 556

PAGE 01 LAGOS 12559 111246Z

44
ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CCO 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25,

AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 02, SCS 04, E 15, DOT 10, RSR 01, /166 W
.....

O P 111155Z SEP 68 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2506
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12559

SUBJ: ICRC RELIEF FLIGHTS

1. SWISS AMB REAL REPORTS LPDT WILL ARRIVE LAGOS TODAY.
HAS REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH CHIEF JUSTICE ADEMOLA, HEAD
NIGERIAN RED CROSS.

2. REAL ALSO STATED BELIEF LINDT DID NOT RPT NOT PRESENT
FMG CONDITIONS FOR ICRC FLIGHTS FROM FERNANDO PO TO OJUKWU.
LINDT TOLD REAL THAT FMG CONDITIONS GOVERNING FLIGHT
ALTITUDES UNACCEPTABLE TO ICRC PILOTS AND CONDITION OF
FMG AIR SURVEILLANCE OF OPERATIONS UNACCEPTABLE TO HIM
(LINDT). LINDT DID NOT COMMENT ON ALTERNATE PROPOSAL MADE
BY CHIEF FMG AIR FORCE (QARA 3 LAGOS 12371).

GP-3

MATHEWS

2
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Authority	VND 954503
By	MM NARA Date 10/5/03



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

Pol 27-9 Biapr. Nigeria 28

CONFIDENTIAL 607

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PAGE 01 DAR ES 04537 111338Z

51

ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SAH 02, ORM 03, SR 01, AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 02, CIAE 00,
DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 25, USIA 12, E 15, RSR 01, /170 W

P R 111001Z SEP 68
FM AMZMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4940
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 4537

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: STATE 235345, 235082

1. PRESIDENT NYERERE IS CURRENTLY TOURING UPCOUNTRY, MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS POST IS NOW VACANT, FOREIGN OFFICE PERMANENT SECRETARY IS ON MONTH'S LEAVE, POLITICAL DIVISION DIRECTOR IS IN GENEVA AT NON-NUCLEAR CONFERENCE, AND SENIOR OFFICER IN WEST SECTION IS ALSO GENEVA. ACCORDINGLY, HIGHEST LEVEL TANZANIAN OFFICIAL AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY DAR AT MOMENT IS AMERICAN DESK OFFICER, ON WHOM EMBASSY OFFICER CALLED SEPT ELEVEN.

2. DESK OFFICER WAS GIVEN MEMORANDUM CONTAINING SUBSTANCE OF STATE 235345 AND WAS ORALLY URGED TO DO WHATEVER COULD BE DONE TO GET BIAFRANS TO FACILITATE DELIVERY OF RELIEF SUPPLIES. POINT WAS STRESSED THAT U.S. HAD PUT PRESSURE ON FMG TO BE ACCOMMODATING AND THAT WE WERE APPROACHING THOSE GOVERNMENTS WHICH HAD RECOGNIZED SECESSIONISTS TO URGE THAT THEY PUT

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Dev. Sec. Salame 4537

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28

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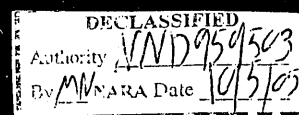
PAGE 02 DAR ES 04537 111338Z

SIMILAR PRESSURE ON BIAFRANS.

3. DESK OFFICER'S REACTION WAS ONE OF DISTRESS OVER SITUATION IN NIGERIA AND GENUINE CONCERN OVER RELIEF PROBLEM. HOWEVER, HE INDICATED THAT IT WAS HIS FEELING THAT SECESSIONISTS' POSITION WAS NOW SO DESPERATE THAT IT WAS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO MAKE ANY CONCESSIONS. DESK OFFICER INDICATED HE WAS AWARE OF POSITION NYERERE HAD TAKEN WITH AMBASSADOR IN EARLIER APPROACH ON THIS SUBJECT (DAR 3991), AND IT SEEMED APPARENT HE WAS KEEPING HIS RESPONSE CONSISTENT WITH PRESIDENT'S.
BURNS

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

9-11-68
13556

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 12556 111146Z

47
ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CCO 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00,
GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25,
SAH 02, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 02, SCS 04, RSR 01, /143 W

O R 111101Z SEP 68 ZFF -4
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2502
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 12556

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF

1. THERE FOLLOWS TELEGRAM GIVEN US BY UK HICOMM WHICH THEY SENT TO COMMONWEALTH OFFICE 9 SEPTEMBER.
BEGIN TEXT: FOOD SUPPLIES IN REBEL TERRITORY. GOWON TOLD ME ON 6 SEPT THAT FEDERAL TROOPS ENTERING ABA HAD FOUND VERY CONSIDERABLE STOCKS OF FOOD THERE. ANGUS MCDERMOT (BBC) WHO VISITED ABA WITH OTHER JOURNALISTS LAST WEEK CONFIRMED THIS AND TOLD ME HE SAW NO SIGNS OF MALNUTRITION AMONGST THE FEW HUNDRED CIVILIANS WHO HAD BY THEN RETURNED (OR HAD NOT FLED), TO WHOM FEDERAL TROOPS WERE DISTRIBUTING FOOD. A DISPATCH BY HIM TO THIS EFFECT WAS CARRIED ON BBC RADIO NEWSREEL THIS MORNING.
2. OTHER JOURNALISTS HAVE REMARKED ON THE ABUNDANT CROPS OF FOOD STUFFS IN AREA.
3. NONE OF THIS, OF COURSE, DISPROVES REPORTS THAT DISPLACED POPULATION IN CAMPS IN REBEL AREA ARE SUFFERING FROM SEVERE FOOD SHORTAGES, BUT IT DOES SUGGEST THAT SHORTAGES ARE LOCAL AND DUE, AS ON FEDERAL SIDE, MORE TO MALDISTRIBUTION, ADMINISTRATIVE FAILURE AND INDIFFERENCE THAN TO ANY OVERALL SCARCITY AND THAT ARMY AND UNDISPLACED CIVILIANS DO NOT FARE

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 12556 111146Z

TOO BADLY. END TEXT.

EXEMPT.

MATHEWS

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By	MNARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA -
NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
XR FSV 8 LIBREVILLE²³

CONFIDENTIAL 770

PAGE 01 LIBREV 01731 111546Z

52

ACTION AT 16

INFO SAH 02, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10,
P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, IO 13, AID 28, E 15, DOT 10, ACDA 16,
EUR 15, SCS 04, SCA 02, SR 01, RSR 01, /195 W

R 110925Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1938

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1731

SUBJ: BIAFRAN AIRLIFT

VIEW NUMBER MISCELLANEOUS AIRCRAFT ACCUMULATING HERE FOR
AIRLIFT BELIEVE OUR TASK OF IDENTIFYING THEM WOULD BE
SIMPLIFIED IF DEPT COULD AIR POUCH US A COPY OF JANE'S
AIRCRAFT OR OF GUIDE WE UNDERSTAND AVAILABLE IN
INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY FOR IDENTIFYING AIRCRAFT AND
SHIPS.
GP-3 NELSON

Libreville
9-11-68
1731

(2)

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By MNARA Date 10/3/03

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

XR DEF 12-5 BIAFRA 23
XR DEF 19-8 FR-BIAFRA

CONFIDENTIAL 718

PAGE 01 LIBREV 01732 111502Z

46
ACTION 16

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SAH 02, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, E 15,
NIC 01, ACDA 16, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, DOT 10, MC 01, RSR 01, /200 W

R 110925Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1939
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1732

SUBJ: BIAFRA AIRLIFT

1. BOTH DC-4'S, CONSTELLATION F-BRAD, AND ONE ZAMBIAN DC-3 DEPARTED LIBREVILLE AIRPORT LAST EVENING SEPT 10 AND AT TIME OF OBSERVATION DC-3 TRKBLML WAS LOADING. REMAINING ON GROUND AND APPARENTLY NOT BEING PREPARED FOR FLIGHT WERE SECOND ZAMBIAN DC-3, TRANSUNION F-BOEX, AND AIRCRAFT DESCRIBED IN LAST PORTION PARA 2 LIBREVILLE 1725. THIS LATTER AIRCRAFT BEARS NAME COMPAGNIE AIR FRET AND IDENTIFICATION F-BCDR. ALL ABOVE AIRCRAFT AT LIBREVILLE THIS MORNING.

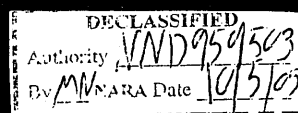
2. FRENCH AIR AFRIQUE PASSENGER SERVICE MANAGER (PROTECT) HAS CONFIRMED TO US ON OWN VOLITION THAT AIRLIFT FLOWN BY FRENCH EX-MILITARY PILOTS AND THAT ARMS AND AMMO BEING TRANSPORTED FROM LIBREVILLE TO BIAFRA. SAID PILOTS RECEIVE BASE PAY OF \$1,000 PER MONTH PLUS QTE HIGH BONUS UNQTE FOR EACH TRIP (LIBREVILLE 1698). ALSO STATED WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS ANATEF 22 OF GHANAIAN REGISTRY ARRIVED HERE SEPT 7 APPARENTLY WITH EAST

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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PAGE 02 LIBREV 01732 111502Z

EUROPEAN CREW AND LATER TOOK OFF FOR BIAFRA. THOUGH
SOURCE SAID AIRCRAFT WAS TO RETURN LIBREVILLE WE HAVE
SEEN NO SIGN OF IT.

3. ORPHAN AIRLIFT APPARENTLY HAS NOT YET BEGUN
(LIBREVILLE 1725); RUMOR IS FIRST FLIGHT WILL BE
SEPT 12 OR 13. IN GABON-MATIN THIS MORNING GABONESE
RED CROSS PUBLISHED APPEAL FOR NURSES, BLOOD DONORS,
CHILDRENS' CLOTHING, CRIBS, ETC. GP-3 NELSON

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By	MW NARA Date 10/5/03



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 01738 111738Z

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ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 02, SCS 04, SAH 02, CIAE 00,

DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,

SS 25, USIA 12, RSR 01, /155 W

P 111715Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1941
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMAASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
CINSSTIKE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1738

SUBJ AIRLIFT BIAFRAN CHILDREN TO GABON

1. AIRLIFT BIAFRAN CHILDREN TO LIBREVILLE APPARENTLY TO COMMENCE TONIGHT AND ACCORDING TO INSPECTEUR DES GRANDES ENDEMIES MARTINAZZO SITUATION CHAOTIC AND PREPARATIONS WHOLLY INADEQUATE. HE TOLD SMALLPOX OPS OFF LAPOINTE THAT LIBREVILLE NOT EVEN READY RECEIVE 200 CHILDREN EXPECTED TONIGHT TO SAY NOTHING OF 2500 TO 4000 HE THINKS MAY EVENTUALLY BE BROUGHT HERE. SAID FIRST GROUPS WILL CONSIST LARGELY OF ORPHANS BUT EXPECTS MOTHERSWITH CHILDREN BE INCLUDED LATER. MARTINAZZO HAS NO IDEA CONDITION CHILDREN OR DISEASES THEY MAY HAVE. LAPOINTE HAS PROVIDED SMALLPOX AND MEASLES VACCINES BUT HAS NONE FOR YELLOW FEVER WHICH ADDITIONAL HAZARD.

2. ACCORDING MARTINAZZO FRNCH RED CROSS TAKING PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILIT AND AT PRESENT HAS AMPLE FUNDS BUT LOCAL MARKET CANNOT BEGIN SUPPLY ALL NEEDS. FOOD,

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PAGE 02 LIBREV 01738 111738Z

CLOTHING, MEDICINES, ETC., CAN OF COURSE BE FLOWN IN FROM FRANCE AND ADDITIONAL SOURCE PERHAPS RELIEF SUPPLIES DESTINED FOR BIAFRA BUT WHICH WE TOLD BY FRENCH MILITARY ATTACHE TODAY PILING UP DUE TO INSUFFICIENT GASOLINE FLY ALL AIRLIFT PLANES NOW AVAILABLE LIBREVILLE.

3. THOUGH FRENCH HAVE MAIN RESPONSIBILITY THIS MATTER SINCE IT UNDOUBTEDLY THEY WHO RESPONSIBLE FOR EXTENT GABONESE INVOLVEMENT BIAFRAN AFFAIR, BUT IF PREPARATIONS FOR RECEPTION BIAFRAN CHILDREN AS DISORDERLY AND INADEQUATE AS MARTINAZZO SAYS, BELIEVE IT POSSIBLE WE MAY BE ASKED GIVE SOME KIND ASSISTANCE AND ON URGENT BASIS.
GP 3 NELSON

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By MWA Date 10/5/03

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA -
NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 863

PAGE 01 LIBREV 01741 130838Z

21
ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 02, SCS 04, RSR 01, SAH 02,

NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, /157 W
.....

R 111510Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1943
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1741

REF LIBREVILLE 1738 - POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

SUBJ AIRLIFT BIAFRAN CHILDREN TO GABON

ACCORDING FRENCH NEWSMAN WHO ON ONE OF PLANES AIRLIFT
BIAFRAN CHILDREN TO LIBREVILLE COULD NOT BEGIN LAST
NIGHT BECAUSE WHEN PLANES ARRIVED OVER BIAFRAN AIRSTRIP
IT BLOCKED BY WRECKAGE OF AIRCRAFT (OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN)
WHICH HAD CRASHED ON LANDING AFTER APPARENTLY HAVING
BEEN DAMAGED BY GROUND FIRE. PRESUMABLY NEW EFFORT
COMMENCE AIRLIFT OF CHILDREN WILL BE MADE TONIGHT. GP 3 NELSON

Libreville 1741
9-11-68

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Authority VND 950/503
By MNARA Date 10/3/05

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POL 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria
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PAGE 01 BONN 16781 111957Z

92
ACTION EUR 20

INFO IO 13, AF 10, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, 16781 Bonn

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, SAH 02, SAL 01, SA 01, E 15,

AID 28, ACDA 16, SCS 04, SCA 02, RSR 01, /185 W

R 111900Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9953
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS BONN 16781
SUBJECT: FRG AID TO NIGERIA
FRG PRESS SPOKESMAN DIEHL TOLD THE PRESS TODAY THAT THE
GERMAN HUMANITARIAN AID COMMITMENT TO NIGERIA CURRENTLY TOTALLED
DM 8.6 MILLION. THE FRG WAS PREPARED TO MAKE AN ADDITIONAL
DM 5 MILLION AVAILABLE LATER IN THE YEAR IF NEEDED, AND
WAS ALSO PUTTING A GERMAN AIR FORCE TRANSPORT PLANE AT
THE DISPOSAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS. DURING THE FRG
CABINET MEETING TODAY, ACCORDING TO DIEHL, FONMIN BRANDT
REPORTED ON HIS TALKS YESTERDAY WITH NIGERIAN INFORMATION
MINISTER ENAHORO. BRANDT INDICATED THAT THE LATTER HAD
PRESENTED THE NIGERIAN VIEWPOINT WHILE HE HAD STRESSED THE
FRG'S DESIRE TO STOP THE FIGHTING AND OPEN THE WAY FOR
NEEDED HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE. LODGE

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By MWA Date 10/5/05

WH (Smith) Approved RRA 9/12/68
(K. Bunker to L. Bunker)



3

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

HB

12245

September 11, 1968

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RS/R FILES

Attention Mrs. Mullett
Keep this study together.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. WALT W. ROSTOW
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Letter to the President from General Gowon of the
Federal Military Government of Nigeria

Enclosed is the signed original of General Gowon's August 31,
1968 letter to the President, the text of which was contained in
Embassy Lagos telegram 12268 of September 2. The General's letter
is in response to the President's message of August 15, 1968, and
therefore it is recommended that no reply be made to him.

Benjamin H. Read
Executive Secretary

Enclosure:

Original of General Gowon's August 31
letter to the President

Clearances:
Nigeria Task Force - Mr. Melbourne
AF - Amb. Moore
S/S -

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GROUP 3

Downgraded at 12-year intervals;
not automatically declassified.

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AF/W:FM Tucker:ncs:9/10/68

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BY S/S: CMS

901 27-9 Bldg - Nigeria

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Authority VND 954/503
By MW NARA Date 10/5/03

12245

1882/S.1

31st August, 1968.

H.E. Mr. Lyndon B. Johnson,
President of the United States of America,
The Whitehouse,
WASHINGTON.

My Dear President,

I am very grateful for your message which came to me by hand of your Ambassador, Mr. Elbert G. Mathews, on 15th August. I had deliberately delayed replying in the hope of being able to inform you that, by agreement with the rebels on land and air corridors, the long outstanding problem of relief supplies for rebel-held areas was on the way to being solved. Unfortunately, weeks of negotiations in Addis Ababa have elicited from the rebel delegation nothing more than agreement in principle to the establishment of land and air corridors.

As you know, the tragedy on both sides of the fighting lines has caused me no end of anguish. I have had to watch helplessly while the rebel leaders have callously used the lives of the civilians in their territory to vilify my government and thus obtain sympathy and support abroad. I have watched, with no little frustration, world opinion being taken for a ride by the rebels who have brazenly refused to allow relief supplies to get to the thousands of suffering civilians. I speak with great feeling on this subject, Mr. President, because for every day the rebels are enabled by "world opinion" to continue their intransigence some tens, possibly hundreds, of my fellow countrymen are unnecessarily losing their lives. If only this opinion brought pressure to bear on the rebels to have compassion and give up their futile attempt at secession, the sufferings would end immediately.

My delegation went to Addis Ababa with instructions to negotiate a package deal involving an air corridor (which the rebels insist upon) and a land corridor (which I offered in May). My insistence on a land corridor is not based on political considerations. All the relief experts who have studied the problems on both sides of the fighting lines are unanimous in the conclusion that the only practicable way for relief supplies of the magnitude required to reach the population in rebel-held area is for supplies to be sent by land.

As a matter of fact, the things most needed are local foodstuffs like Yam, Gari, Beans and Rice which are bulky items and which are better transported by land. It is very sad to note also that the rebels have rejected the offer of my delegation at Addis Ababa to contribute large quantities of these local foodstuffs to the I.C.R.C. for distribution in the rebel held areas.

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MW NARA Date 10/5/05

I am convinced, therefore, that the reason for their attitude is that once relief supplies can pass through Federal territory and be seen to be safe and uncontaminated, the sting will be taken out of Mr. Ojukwu's propaganda. The result will be that many more would desert Mr. Ojukwu and his rebellion might therefore collapse without the need for further military operations. Although disappointed, therefore, I am not surprised that Mr. Ojukwu is using every possible ruse to avoid agreement on a land corridor while insisting on air corridor as a propaganda exercise to win international sympathy and recognition.

The air corridor demanded by the rebel leadership is designed also to provide their side with maximum military advantage as it would lie in the path of the immediate advance of my troops and is nearer on their direct munitions' supply route from Libreville in Gabon. If the secessionists are really concerned about the sufferings of the Ibos they should hand over their main airfield in the Uli/Ihiala area to the ICRC for handling relief supplies. I am prepared to accept this because of our concern for the sufferings of those innocent people. I am hopeful that pressures from the world leaders like Your Excellency may persuade Ojukwu to change his mind.

As regards the activities of the I.C.R.C. it is unfortunate that in their anxiety to show the world that they are doing something to relieve distress in the rebel territory, the I.C.R.C. have infringed their own Charter, broken our laws and embarrassed my Government. Thus, when the rebels were demanding a ceasefire and the lifting of the blockade as a pre-condition for commencing the peace talk in Kampala, the I.C.R.C. was canvassing among some Governments the need for the Federal Government to lift its blockade. They also sent a delegate to Kampala for this purpose.

Your Embassy here was kind enough to give us advance information on this "humanitarian manoeuvre). Recently, the I.C.R.C. again embarrassed my Government by suddenly announcing that they had obtained "the neutralisation of an airstrip in a signed agreement with the 'Biafran' authorities" without obtaining our agreement.

Mr. President, you will agree that nobody can be more concerned than we Nigerians about the suffering of our fellow countrymen in any part of this country. We recognise the good work of genuine humanitarian organisations. Our experience here has shown, however, that the humanitarian ardour seems to be rather selective and to be, more aroused when there are prospects of publicity. For some reason, the activities of the I.C.R.C. in the liberated areas where they can operate freely do not match their much publicised concern for the sufferings of the people behind the rebel lines.

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Authority	VND 954503
By	MW NARA Date 10/5/05

May I, Mr. President, express my personal appreciation for the co-operation my Government has always received from You and your Government.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of my highest consideration and esteem.

Yours most sincerely,

Sgd. Y. GOWON

(MAJOR-GENERAL YAKUBU GOWON)
Head of the Federal Military Government
Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces,
of the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

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Authority	VND 9501503
By	MN NARA Date 10/5/05

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No. 220/247/1

The Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria presents his compliments to the Secretary of State of the United States of America and has the honour to forward herewith a letter from Major-General Yakubu Gowon, Head of the Federal Military Government and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Nigeria, to the Honourable Lyndon B. Johnson, President of the United States of America. The letter is in reply to a message delivered to General Gowon by the United States Ambassador in Nigeria on 15th August, 1968.

The Ambassador of Nigeria would be most grateful if the letter could be delivered to the President as soon as possible. A further copy of the text of the letter is hereto attached.

The Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria avails himself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretary of State of the United States of America the assurances of his highest consideration.

① 9/9/68

19724

Washington, D.C.

9th September, 1968.

① 27.9
Bridgman, Nigeria

0667

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MNARA Date 10/5/05

No.220/247/1

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Washington, D.C.

9th September, 1968.

0668

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Authority	VND 954503
By	MM/ARA
Date	10/5/03

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MEMORANDUM FOR MR. WALT W. ROSTOW
THE WHITE HOUSE

Subject: Letter to the President from General Gowon of the
Federal Military Government of Nigeria

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therefore it is recommended that no reply be made to him.

Benjamin H. Read
Executive Secretary

Enclosure:

Original of General Gowon's August 31
letter to the President

Clearances:
Nigeria Task Force - Mr. Melbourne
AF - Amb. Moore
S/S -

CONFIDENTIAL

GROUP 3
Downgraded at 12-year intervals;
not automatically declassified.

AF/W:FM/Tucker:ncs:9/10/68

0669

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 954503
By	MM/ARA Date 10/3/03

FORM 12-63 DS-1563

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
ACTION SLIP
(To Remain With Correspondence)

CONTROL NO.

S/S 12245 *AFW*

TO
AF - Mr. Heubeck

DATE
9/9/68

SUBJECT Note fm Emb. of Nigeria enclosing ltr to Pres for xmittal to WH:ROSTOW re the negotiation with the rebels on land and air corridors.

ACTION

*Prompt handling is essential. Return basic correspondence with reply. If delayed call telephone extension below.

For appropriate action.

For direct reply. Comeback copy required _____.

Prepare reply. A response for signature by the _____.

Clear with _____.

Prepared by Read to Rostow memo transmitting to White House and
containing recommendation re reply.

Refer to White House request of _____.

Due in S/S by September 10, 1968 *

For your information.

REMARKS

*If reply is recommended and cannot be prepared by COB September 10, letter should be forwarded on September 10 under Read/Rostow stating recommendation re reply will follow.

COPIES TO

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
1968 SEP 10 AM 10 21
OFFICE OF THE ASST.
SECRETARY - AF

GLKelly ~~xxx~~ x6952
SECRETARIAT STAFF

EXT.

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Authority VMD 959503
By MWA Date 10/5/05



DS

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LONDON 12507 111045Z

21
ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00,
CCO 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25,
SAH 02, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 02, SCS 04, RSR 01, /143 W

O R 111020Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5964
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NEW YORK 1400

LONDON 12507
9-11-68

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON 12507

SUBJ: NIGERIA: CURRENT STATUS BRITISH RELIEF EFFORT

REF: SECSTATE 234644

1. COMMONWEALTH OFFICE AND OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT MINISTRY HAVE GIVEN US LATEST WRAP-UP BRITISH RELIEF (AND RECONSTRUCTION) EFFORTS WHICH MAY BE OF INTEREST IN CONNECTION ASST SECTY PALMER'S TESTIMONY BEFORE SENATE AFRICAN SUB-COMMITTEE (REFTEL).

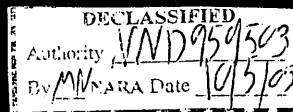
2. IN ADDITION TO 270,000 POUNDS BEING PROVIDED FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF PURPOSES, HMG THROUGH ITS MINISTRY FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT HAS APPROVED TWO PROJECTS IN EASTERN NIGERIA CALLING FOR A TOTAL EXPENDITURE OF ABOUT 200,00 POUNDS IN BFY 69.

3. 100,000 POUNDS IS BEING PROVIDED TO THE FMG FOR EQUIPMENT TO FACILITATE EMERGENCY REPAIRS ON BRIDGES, ROADS AND ELECTRIC POWER INSTALLATIONS.

4. ANOTHER 100,000 POUNDS (EXPECTED TO BE 300,000 POUNDS OVER A THREE-YEAR PERIOD) WILL FINANCE A PEDIATRIC TEAM WHICH WILL OPEN A CHILDREN'S WING IN THE ENUGU HOSPITAL. THE UNIT IS EXPECTED TO CONSIST OF FIVE DOCTORS, TEN NURSES, TWO SUPPLY MEN AND SEVERAL

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PAGE 02 LONDON 12507 111045Z

DRIVERS. THE ADVANCE PARTY WILL LEAVE BRITAIN NEXT MONTH.

5. RE TRANSPORT, CO ADVISES THAT 25 TRUCKS DELIVERED LAGOS WEEK AGO. THIS FILLS CURRENT ICRC REQUESTS AND BRITISH ARE WAITING TO HEAR WHETHER MORE WILL BE NEEDED AND CAN BE PUT TO USE. BRITS ARE ALSO IN PROCESS OF SUPPLYING CERTAIN NUMBER OUTBOARD MOTORS AND OTHER RIVER TRANSPORT GEAR IN RESPONSE ICRC REQUESTS.
BRUCE

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By	MN/ARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

235497

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

UNCLASSIFIED

Classification

10 SEP 68 16 11z

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Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS PRIORITY

Info:

INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA
LONDON
PARIS

USUN
US MISSION GENEVA
Amconsul IBADAN
Amconsul KADUNA
CINCSTRIKE

SUBJ: Nixon Statement on Nigerian Relief

1. According UPI report Sept 9 Richard Nixon issued statement on Nigerian relief. He called on President Johnson to use qte all time and attention and imagination and energy he can muster unqte to cut through diplomatic niceties and end genocide in Biafra. Qte Starvation is daily claiming the lives of an estimated 6,000 Ibo tribesmen, most of them children unqte. Nixon said the thousands of tons of supplies and baby foods rushed to area by relief organizations have been unable reach their destination because of mutual distrust both by the Ibos and by the central government of Nigeria which they rebelling against. Qte Until now efforts relieve the Biafran people have been thwarted by desire of the central government of Nigeria to pursue total and unconditional victory and by fear of the Ibo people that surrender means wholesale atrocities and genocide unqte statement said. Nixon said the genocide going on in Biafra was overwhelming. Qte This is not the time to stand on ceremony or go

235-497

Drafted by:

AF/P:RLPerkins:mb 9/10/68

Tel. Ext.
2105

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

Nigerian Task Force-Mr. Melbourne

Clearances:

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FORM DS-322
8-65

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By: MN NARA Date: 10/5/03

Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS

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through channels or to observe the diplomatic niceties. The destruction of an entire people is an immoral objective, even in the most moral of wars unqte.

2. Balt Sun Sept 10 quotes Nixon additionally as saying qte America is not without enormous material wealth and power and ability. There is no better case in which we might invest that power than in sparing lives of innocent men and women and children who are otherwise doomed unqte.

3. In NYTimes Sept 10 following added from Nixon statement qte The time is past for wringing of hands about what is going on. While America is not world's policeman, let us at least act as world's conscience in this matter of life and death for millions unqte.

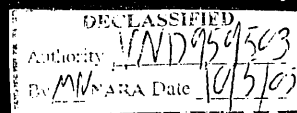
END

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
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CONFIDENTIAL 619

PAGE 01 LAGOS 12538 102136Z

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ACTION AF 16

INFO IO 13,SSO 00,NSCE 00,USIE 00,CIAE 00,DODE 00,GPM 04,H 02,INR 07

L 03,NSAE 00,NSC 10,P 04,RSC 01,SP 02,SS 25,SA 01,SAH 02,SR 01

ORM 03,SCS 04,SCA 02,AID 28,PC 04,RSR 01, /133 W

O R 101630Z SEP 68 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2492

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12538

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (MRN ONLY VICE 12358)

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF - FOR 11 SEPT. CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS

REF: LAGOS 12456 AND 12522

1. BULLE AGAIN CONFIRMED TO ECON COUNSELOR THAT HE WELL SATISFIED WITH THE WAY ICRC FIELD OPERATIONS GOING. HE ALSO SEEMED IMPRESSED WITH COMPETENCE NEW ICRC LAGOS DIRECTOR, SCHURCH.

2. IN COURSE CONVERSATION, BULLE COMMENTED THAT ICRC NOW ABLE TO GET RELIEF SUPPLIES FROM SIX OR SEVEN MILES BEYOND UYO TOWARD IKOT-EKPENE BUT THAT THERE REAL DIFFICULTIES IN REACHING REFUGEES IN AREA BECAUSE OF AUGUST 10 ATTACK ON IKOT-EKPENE WHERE REBEL SOLDIERS DISGUISED AS REFUGEES AND ACCOMPANIED BY WOMEN BEARING ARMS. FEDERAL TROOPS SINCE CHARY OF REFUGEES WHOM THEY FEAR MAY TURN BE SOLDIERS. WHEN REBELS TOOK OVER IKOT-EKPENE, THEY TREATED REFUGEES HARSHLY, REGARDING THEM AS FMG COLLABORATORS. AS CONSEQUENCE, LARGE NUMBERS OF REFUGEES HAVE SIMPLY DISAPPEARED INTO BUSH AND NOT RPT NOT REACHABLE.

3. RE PARA. FOUR LAGOS 12522, HITZ REPORTS THAT AFTER ABORTIVE ATTEMPT DELIVER FIVE TONS NFDM,

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NO RPT NO FURTHER EFFORT MADE. THIS CONFLICTS WITH STATEMENT OMO-BARE JUST MADE TO ACTING DIRECTOR USAID THAT SUPPLIES INFACIT DELIVERED AND THAT HE GOING TO PORT HARCOURT TOMORROW TO OBSERVE CARE OF, AND DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD TO REFUGEES. WE SUSPECT ICRC IS RIGHT ALTHOUGH OMO-BARE MAY HAVE PROCURED NFDM ELSEWHERE AND SENT IT TO PORT HARCOURT. HITZ (PROTECT SOURCE) MADE OBSERVATION THAT IF FMD COULD MANAGE RELIEF PROBLEM THROUGH ARMY ACTION, THIS WOULD SIMPLY EASE WHOLE SITUATION. HE COMMENTED ON EFFICIENCY AND DETERMINATION OF ADEKUNLE, STATING THAT THE WHOLE JOB WOULD BE EASIER IF MORE NIGERIANS PREPARED MAKE KIND OF DETERMINED EFFORT MEET RELIEF NEEDS ADKUNLE SEEMED BENT ON IN PORT HAROUCRT-ABA AREA.

GP-3. MATHEWS

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ACTION AF 16

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CCO 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25,

AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 02, SR 01, ORM 03, SAH 02, RSR 01, 1143 W

O P 101400Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2480
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12522

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: STATE 234836 *press conference*

1. DEPT WILL HAVE SEEN KELLY (VOA) REPORT (LAGOS 12455) WHICH POINTS OUT THERE OVER 1000 CIVILIANS IN ABA, MANY OF THEM IBO. ALSO, CONVERSATION KELLY HAD WITH IBO COURT REGISTRAR WHO SAID NEARLY HALF THOSE IN CITY WERE IBOS, MANY MORE IN HIDING WHO WOULD COME OUT SOON, PARTICULARLY WHEN BECAME KNOWN FEDERAL ARMY DISTRIBUTING FOOD. WE CREDIT KELLY REPORT OVER AP STORY THAT VIRTUALLY NONE OF "300 CIVILIANS ROUNDED UP IN ABA" WERE IBOS.

2. AT SEPT. 9 PRESS CONFERENCE, GOWON WAS ASKED ABOUT REPORTS THAT ADEKUNLE DID NOT RPT NOT WANT RED CROSS IN ABA. GOWON REPLIED THAT IT WAS NATURAL FOR A COMMANDER NOT TO WANT THIS SORT OF ACTIVITY IN ACTIVE THEATER OF WAR BUT THAT WHEN THE TIME CAME ADEKUNLE WOULD BE INSTRUCTED AND WOULD ACCEPT SUCH ASSISTANCE. DO NOT BELIEVE WE CAN GET MORE AUTHORITATIVE STATEMENT THAN THIS. WE INCLINED BELIEVE THAT ADEKUNLE, ONCE DUST SETTLE AND REFUGEES APPEAR IN GREATER NUMBERS, WILL ACCEPT ICRC HELP. CERTAINLY HE HAS PERMITTED ICRC OPERATE IN CELABAR AREA AND HIS COMMANDERS THAT AREA, SO ICRC REPORTS, HAVE BEEN MOST COOPERATIVE. WE ALSO NOTE PRESS TODAY CARRIES PICTURE OF RELIEF SUPPLIES INCLUDING "TINS OF

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*Supra 12522
9-10-68*

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 12522 101434Z

MILK" BEING DISTRIBUTED BY FEDERAL TROOPS TO
REFUGEES IN ABA.

3. ALSO, RE ADEKUNLE
ATTITUDE ON ICRC AND DRY MILK, HE
MADE REQUEST FOR FIVE TONS NFDM RPT NFDM FOR PORT HARCOURT SOME
THREE WEEKS AGO WHICH ICRC AGREED SUPPLY. THIS DELIVERED TO
APAPA FOR SHIPMENT SOME TWO WEEKS AGO BUT ARRIVED IN
MIDST DOCK STRIKE. BEFORE SUPPLIES COULD BE GOTTEN INTO
PORT, SHIP ON WHICH THEY TO BE SENT TO PORT HARCOURT HAD
ALREADY LEFT. OMO BARE, WITH WHO ICRC DISCUSSED MATTER,
WAS TO HAVE APPROACHED ADEKUNLE SUGGESTING THAT ICRC WOULD
WANT RED CROSS PERSON COULD BE MEMBER NIGERIAN RED
CROSS TO ACCOMPANY MILK. WE ATTEMPTING TO FIND OUT IF
OMO BARE WHO WAS OUT OF TOWN MUCH OF THE TIME
EVER FOLLOWED THROUGH BUT HITZ, WHO ONLY ICRC
PERSON INVOLVED AT THAT STAGE, WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE UNTIL
LATER THIS AFTERNOON. HOWEVER, COMMAND DECISION WAS
TAKEN BY SCHURCH AT TIME TO SEND MILK IN ANY EVENT,
HOPE BEING TO GET FOOT IN DOOR AT PORT HARCOURT.
INFO THIS PARA FOR BACKGROUND, BUT BELIEVE UNWISE
MAKE PUBLIC.

4. WE DISCUSSED ADEKUNLE ATTITUDE WITH LAGOS ICRC
DIRECTOR, SCHURCH, WHO SEEMED RELAXED. HE SAID ICRC WOULD
GO INTO PORT HARCOURT WITH PERSONNEL AND SUPPLIES TO EXTENT
POSSIBLE WHEN PERMITTED. HE POINTS OUT, HOWEVER, ICRC
TEAMS ON SCENE NOW QUITE FULLY EMPLOYED AND UNTIL
COASTAL VESSELS ARRIVE AMOUNT ICRC COULD DO IMMEDIATELY IS
LIMITED. SCHURCH ALSO POINTS OUT ADEKUNLE FEARFUL HAVING
WHITE FACES IN WAR ZONE, A POINT HE ALSO HAS MADE
TO SEAN KELLY (VOA). IN MEETING WITH KELLY, ADEKUNLE
EXPLAINED HE DOES NOT WANT RISK A WHITEFACE BEING KILLED
BY REBELS WHO WOULD THEN CLAIM MERCENARIES IN FEDERAL ARMY.

5. PERHAPS BEST ANSWER TO QUESTION ON ADEKUNLE'S
ATTITUDE IS THAT HE HAS COOPERATED IN CALABAR AREA
TO EXTENT HIS MILITARY OPERATION PERMITTED; HE IS A
"DO IT YOURSELF" TYPE AND HE AND HIS TROOPS PRIDE THEMSELVES
ON THIS; THUS FAR, AS KELLY TELLS US, ARMY HAS DISTRIBUTED
ADEQUATE SUPPLIES TO MEET NEEDS OF THOSE TO WHOM DISTRIBUTION
CAN BE MADE IN ABA AREA. GOWON ATTITUDE, OF COURSE, SHOULD

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BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT AND WE BELIEVE HE FULLY CONSCIOUS OF
NEED TO GET RELIEF TO THOSE REACHABLE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
WHATEVER ADEKUNLE'S FAULTS MAY BE, BELIEVE HE NOW ALSO FULLY
AWARE NEED IF ONLY FROM PUBLIC RELATIONS VIEWPOINT TO SEE
THAT RELIEF IN FACT GETS TO NEEDY.

GP-3.

MATHEWS

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 01728 111526Z

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ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CCO 00, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, USUE 00, CIAE 00,
DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 25, SAH 02, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 02, SCS 04, RSR 01, /143 W
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R 101730Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1935
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1728

REF STATE 235345 — POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

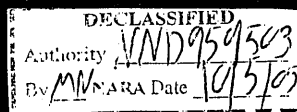
SUBJ BIAFRAN RELIEF

1. IN ACCORDANCE REFTEL, MADE REPRESENTATIONS TODAY ON
ACTING FONMIN ANDRE MINTSA (WHO IS MIN OF PUB ADMIN AND
ADMIN TECH COOPERATION) AND FONMIN SEC GEN BOUANGA. IN
RESPONSE QUESTION, THEY SAID GOG HAD NOT EARLIER RAISED
WITH BIAFRANS MATTER COOPERATION WITH ICRA ON RELIEF
CORRIDORS. MINTSA SAID HE WOULD DO WHAT HE COULD TO
URGE SUCH COOPERATION ON BIAFRANS AND THEN ASKED BOUANGA
HOW TO REACH BIAFRAN REP. BOUANGA REPLIED HE HAD ATTEMPTED
UNSUCCESSFULLY LOCATE HIM THROUGH OTHER BIAFRANS HERE ABOUT 10
DAYS AGO ON BEHALF TWO VISITORS FROM PARIS WHO WISHED SEE HIM.
BOUANGA HAD NOT EVEN LOCATED RESIDENCE BIAFRAN REP.

2. TO SAY THE LEAST GABONESE-BIAFRAN RELATIONS AT FONMIN
LEVEL WOULD APPEAR LESS THAN INTIMATE, THOUGH OF COURSE MAIN

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RESPONSIBILITY RESTS WITH PRESIDENT. THIS EXCHANGE
SUGGESTS ONCE AGAIN EXTENT TO WHICH GABONESE INVOLVEMENT BIAFRA
IS FRENCH MANAGED AFFAIR. MINTSA MOST UNLIKELY MAKE ANY MOVE
WITHOUT CHECKING FIRST WITH PRESIDENT BONGOM WHAT XONM
PLACED TO DO PROBLEMATIC IN VIEW HIS APPARENT DISILLUSIONMENT
(LBVL 1709 AND 1710). BELIEVE ANYTHING IN NATURE FORCEFUL
GABONESE REPRESENTATIONS TO BIAFRANS WOULD BE FORTHCOMING
ONLY IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST BY FRENCH. NELSON

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PAGE 01 FORT L 02375 101442Z

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ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 02, SCS 04, SAH 02, CIAE 00,
DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 25, USIA 12, RSR 01, /155 W

P 101040Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY FORT LAMY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2211
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE FORT LAMY 2375

SUBJ: RED CROSS OVERFLIGHT

1. NIGERIAN CHARGE TELLS US HE WAS ASKED BY GOC SEPTEMBER 6 TO OBTAIN INFORMATION FROM LAGOS CONCERNING POSSIBLE RED CROSS EVACUATION FLIGHT FMG POWS FROM BIAFRA TO FORT LAMY. HE SAID GOC RECEIVED REQUEST REPORTEDLY FROM RED CROSS. REQUEST SUPPOSEDLY HAD BEEN APPROVED BY FMG BEFOREHAND.
2. CHARGE QUERIED LAGOS AND RECEIVED REPLY SEPTEMBER 8 DENYING ANY KNOWLEDGE OF FLIGHT OR REQUEST. AS RESULT GOC REFUSED CLEARANCE.
3. COMMENT: THIS WOULD APPEAR ONE OF TWO THINGS: EITHER WOLF MASQUERADING IN RED CROSS CLOTHING OR NORMAL SEPTEMBER BALL FUMBLING IN THE BUSH LEAGUES. VANCE

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04744 101219Z

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ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CCO 00, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03,

SCA 02, SCS 04, SAH 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, RSR 01, /143 W

O R 101123Z SEP 68 ZFF-4
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8826
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USUN NEW YORK 2342

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4744

SUBJECT: ICRC AND NIGERIAN RELIEF: BIAFRAN AIRLIFT.

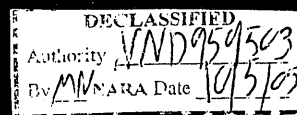
REF: A) STATE 234796; B) LAGOS 12461; C) GENEVA 4726; D) GENEVA
4732; E) LAGOS 12371.

1. ACCORDING ROETHLIN (LINDT'S GENEVA CHIEF OF STAFF) LINDT AND
PICTET ARE STILL IN FERNANDO PO. ASKED WHEN THEY WERE PROCEEDING
LAGOS, HE SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER THEY WERE IN FACT GOING.
ROETHLIN GAVE AS HIS PERSONAL VIEW, AND IMPLIED IT MIGHT ALSO
BE LINDT'S, THAT ICRC'S DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS HAD RUN INTO A STONE
WALL, AND THAT PERHAPS THE BEST ICRC COULD DO AT THE MOMENT
WAS TO GET AS MUCH IN SUPPLIES INTO BIAFRA AS POSSIBLE UNDER
EXISTING CIRCUMSTANCES. ROETHLIN POINTED OUT ICRC HAD INCREASED
NIGHT AIRLIFT TO NINE FLIGHTS EACH NIGHT SEPTEMBER 7 AND 8 AND
EXPECTED SOON TO HAVE TWELVE FLIGHTS (TWO FOR EACH OF SIX
PLANES) EVERY NIGHT.

COMMENT: ALTHOUGH ROETHLIN SEEMS TO BE THINKING ALMOST EX-
CLUSIVELY IN TERMS AIRLIFT, PICTET AND LINDT AS SUGGESTED REF C
MAY BE SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING CONFRONTATION BIAFRANS WITH LAND
CORRIDOR; ICRC GENEVA HOWEVER HAS NO INDICATION AS YET OF
FIRMLY PROJECTED LINDT-PICTET APPROACH TO FMG TO MOUNT OPERATION.

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 04744 101219Z

2. REGARDING OJUKWU'S REJECTION LINDT-GOWON AGREEMENT ON DAY AIRLIFT TO ULI-ANNABELLE (REFS A & B), ROETHLIN BLAMED CONDITION ATTACHED BY FMG, AFTER AGREEMENT SIGNED, THAT FMG HAVE RIGHT OVERFLY ULI AIRSTRIP DURING OPERATION AND BE FREE BIAFRAN ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE. ACCORDING ROETHLIN, WHILE OJUKWU HAD NOT ACCEPTED LINDT-GOWON AGREEMENT BEFORE BECOMING AWARE FMG CONDITION (ACCORDING ROETHLIN DELIVERED LINDT AFTER HIS GOING TO BIAFRA TO GET OJUKWU'S AGREEMENT) HIS POSITION BECAME FIRMLY NEGATIVE AFTER HE BECAME AWARE OF IT. MISOFF INQUIRED (ON BASIS INFO REF E BUT WITHOUT INDICATING POSSESSION THIS INFO) WHETHER THIS HAD REMAINED FMG CONDITION OR WHETHER SOME ALTERNATIVE MIGHT PERHAPS HAVE BEEN SUGGESTED, ROETHLIN SAID HE KNEW OF NO FMG MODIFICATION OR ALTERNATIVE, AND SUGGESTED THAT HAD THERE BEEN AN ACCEPTABLE ONE OJUKWU WOULD HAVE ACCEPTED THE LINDT-GOWON AGREEMENT.

COMMENT: ROETHLIN OBVIOUSLY UNCRITICAL ON OJUKWU'S POSITION. HIS ACCOUNT ALSO DOES NOT RECONCILE WITH PARA 4 REF E. HOWEVER IT COULD BE THAT LINDT PASSED FMG ALTERNATIVE CONDITION RECEIVED THROUGH REAL TO OJUKWU AFTER LATTER'S POSITION HAD HARDENED AS RESULT INITIAL FMG CONDITION; MOREOVER IT APPEARS FROM REF E THAT ALTERNATIVE MIGHT HAVE COME TO LINDT AND PASSED THROUGH HIM TO OJUKWU AS AN IDEA ONLY RATHER THAN AS FIRM FMG OFFER.

3. ACCORDING ROETHLIN, ICRC HAS NO REPEAT NO INFORMATION SUPPORTING STORY THAT OJUKWU TOLD LINDT HE WOULD USE FORCE IF NECESSARY TO PREVENT DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS TO ULI (ANNABELLE) AIRSTRIP (REF B).

4. ON DETAILS PRESENT AIRLIFT, ROETHLIN SAYS NINE FLIGHTS NIGHTS OF SEPTEMBER 7 AND 8 WERE DIVIDED EACH NIGHT FIVE TO OBILAGO (UTURU) AND FOUR TO ULI (ANNABELLE). FIVE SEEMS TO BE OBILAGO LIMIT FOR TIME BEING. ESPECIALLY WITH HEAVY RAINS, RUNWAY IS NOT IN GOOD CONDITION AND FACILITIES INADEQUATE.

7. ROETHLIN SAID ENAHORO HAD MET WITH SWISS PRESIDENT SPUHLER IN BERN YESTERDAY BUT HAD NO INFORMATION SUBSTANCE CONVERSATION. TUBBY

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By MNARA Date 10/3/05

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04750 101521Z

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ACTION AF 16

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 02, SCS 04, RSR 01, NSA 02,
CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 25, USIA 12, E 15, DOT 10, /180 W

R 101440Z SEP 68
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8831
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
USUN NEW YORK 2343

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4750

SUBJECT NIGERIAN RELIEF

1. GALLOPIN, EXDIR ICRC, TELLS ME LINDT EXPECTS GO LAGOS
"VERY SHORTLY." HOWEVER NOT SURE WHEN THAT BE. SAYS LINDT
PRESENTLY WORKING HARD ON AIRLIFT TECHNICAL PROBLEMS
FERNANDO PO.

2. ASKED GALLOPIN WHETHER PROGRESS ON LAND CORRIDOR. SAID
NO, THAT BIAFRANS MORE AFRAID THAN EVER THAT SUCH CORRIDOR
OPEN WAY FOR FMG MILITARY.
TUBBY

GENEVA-
9-10 6 9 8
4750

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Authority	VND 954503
By	MW NARA Date 10/5/05



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NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, /157 W

R 101706Z SEP 68
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8832
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USUN NEW YORK 2344

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4752

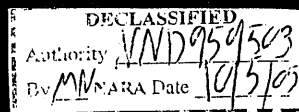
SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: ICRC PERSONNEL IN BIAFRA

REF: GENEVA 4727 AND 4732

1. MEMBERS LINDT'S GENEVA STAFF RESPONSIBLE FOR PERSONNEL UNDER ICRC IN NIGERIA/BIAFRA REPORT CONTINUING CONFUSION AS TO THEIR NUMBERS AND LOCATIONS IN BIAFRA.
2. RC SOCIETIES (MAINLY SCANDINAVIAN) HAVE SENT MEDICAL/TECHNICAL/SUPPLY PERSONNEL OR TEAMS. MANY OF THESE ARRIVED SANTA ISABEL WITH SHORT OR NO NOTICE TO ICRC, WHICH NEVERTHELESS HAS BEEN OBTAINING NECESSARY CLEARANCES WITH SPANISH AUTHORITIES. ICRC HAS CONTACTED RC SOCIETIES AND UNDERSTANDING HAS BEEN REACHED ADDITIONAL TEAMS AND PERSONNEL WILL NOT DEPART HOME COUNTRIES FOR SANTA ISABEL UNTIL FORMALITIES COMPLETED.
3. PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN ENTERING BIAFRA ON NOW GREATLY STEPPED-UP NIGHT AIRLIFT. ICRC GENEVA NOW TRYING GET EXACT DATA ON HOW MANY IN BIAFRA AND WHERE (LOCATION EVEN OF OLD TEAMS NOT CERTAIN AS THEY TEND TO MOVE), AND HOW MANY STILL IN SANTA ISABEL. ICRC ESTIMATES 100-125 SO FAR IN BIAFRA. HOPES HAVE LISTS OF TEAMS WITH NAMES AND LOCATIONS BY END OF WEEK. MISSION WILL TRANSMIT TO DEPT. ASAP.

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PAGE 02 GENEVA 04752 101735Z

4. ICRC INFORMS PERSONNEL ENGAGED IN AIRLIFT NUMBER 85--28
ON GROUND IN SANTA ISABEL AND 57 IN AIR CREWS.

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Authority	VND 9501503
By	MN NARA Date 10/3/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

234836

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INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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98 SEP 68 19 05z

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Origin
Info:

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS IMMEDIATE

INFO : USMission GENEVA PRIORITY

1. AP story from Aba September 9 reports FMG troops distributing food to 300 civilians rounded up in Aba, virtually none of them Ibos. Story describes Aba streets as almost empty but army believes thousands of civilians remain.
2. Adekunle quoted as saying his troops--not Red Cross--would handle relief in area because QTE they know what Nigerians need, not milk but rice, beans and such solid foods UNQTE. Story adds Adekunle has QTE refused permit ICRC and its cartons of dried milk into the front UNQTE.
3. Embassy requested obtain urgent and authoritative clarification of Adekunle's reported comments from appropriate FMG authority and views of ICRC Lagos. Story likely be given wide play and is likely subject at Assistant Secretary Palmer's Congressional hearing September 11.

234836

EXEMPTED BY ESR

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Drafted by:	AF:AFW:RPSmith:ba 9/9/68	Tel. Ext.	6402	Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:	Nigerian Task Force Roy M. Melbourne
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AF-Mr. Palmer 2nd (sub)

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FORM 8-65 DS-322

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By: MVA Date: 10/3/03

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Origin ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS PRIORITY

Info: INFO : Amembassy ADDIS ABABA
USMission GENEVA
Amembassy LONDON
USUN NEW YORK

STATE

SUBJECT: Parachutes for Nigerian Relief

1. Catholic Relief Services (CRS) has requested MC license for purchase one thousand cargo parachutes costing total of \$10,000 for use in air dropping food and medicine package loads up to 27 pounds into Biafra.
2. CRS informed Sept 7 that license would be issued if ICRC assurances obtained and conveyed to us that QTE operation consistent its current humanitarian efforts and it has no objections. We feel we must require this since we strongly committed to assist ICRC in its humanitarian efforts to bring assistance to needy on both sides Nigerian civil conflict and it presently engaged important negotiations towards this end. UNQTE. Decontrol upon receipt.

END

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Drafted by:

AF/W:GBSherry: 9/9/68

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5462

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

Nigeria Task Force-RMM Melbourne

Clearances:

GPM/ MC/SKoumanellis (info)

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By MVA Date 10/5/01

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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Classification

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Origin

ACTION: Amembassy	DAR ES SALAAM	PRIORITY
"	ABIDJAN	"
"	LIBREVILLE	"
"	LUSAKA	"
INFO: Amembassy	ADDIS ABABA	
"	LAGOS	
"	LONDON	
"	PARIS	
USMission	GENEVA	

STATE

REF: Lagos 12299

1. Since Nigerian Government (FMG) and International Red Cross (ICRC) concluded agreement for 10-day period of daylight relief flights into Biafra (Ref being transmitted to action addressees by Dept) Biafrans have opposed use of Uli (Annabelle) airstrip designated in that agreement. Night relief flights proceeding but manifestly unequal to need. Both FMG and ICRC at time their agreement also underlined necessity of prompt agreement on land or water corridors to move bulk of relief supplies.
2. Various diplomatic missions in Lagos, including US, prior to conclusion above 10-day agreement interceded strongly with FMG urging its cooperation with ICRC in achieving early agreement on corridors. Biafran accommodation likewise indispensable to enable relief corridors by air, land or water to be implemented by ICRC. Believe in this respect that African states which have recognized Biafra have responsibility to press it to cooperate with ICRC so that relief routes can be speedily established.

Drafted by:

Nigeria Task Force: RMMelbourne: emb

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Tel. Ext.

2619

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classification approved by:

AF - C. Robert Moore

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FORM DS-322
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Pol 27-9 Biafra Nigeria
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Pol 27-9 Biafra Nigeria

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By: MVA Date: 10/5/02

DAR ES SALAAM, ABIDJAN, LIBREVILLE, LUSAKA
Page 2 of telegram to Amembassies ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

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3. Request each action addressee, unless it perceives objection, to raise subject on priority basis at highest appropriate government level. Embassy should inquire as to what local government might be doing to support ICRC efforts to get Biafran agreement on relief corridors. It can recount substance of above paras 1 and 2 and then state that Biafrans in eyes of world could appear unduly rigid if insisting on conditions which would prevent earliest entry of satisfactory quantity of relief supplies/ under reasonable safeguards. Embassy should suggest, in view world humanitarian interest, that local government urge Biafrans to cooperate with ICRC so that earliest agreement on relief routes may be achieved.
4. Report result conversations urgently.

END

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Origin

Info:

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS PRIORITY
INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA
" LONDON
USMission GENEVA
USMission NEW YORK

Ref: Geneva 4726

Subj: Nigeria Relief; ICRC Airlift

1. Department concerned and deeply disappointed at Biafran unwillingness to go along with Lindt-Gowon agreement on ten day airlift to QTE Annabelle.

UNQTE.

2. Ref reports Lindt proceeding to Lagos to talk with FMG and ICRC reps. Request Lagos to obtain from Lindt (a) reasons for Biafran refusal to accept airlift and (b) info re what is being done to get countries which have recognized Biafra to apply pressure on Ojukwu to accept Lindt plan. In doing so, Lagos should also ask Lindt if USG might be helpful re point (b) above.

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Telegraphic transmission and
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Roy M. Melrose
Nigerian Task Force

FORM DS-322
8-65

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By MVA Date 10/5/00

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Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS PRIORITY

Index

STATE

SUBJECT: FMG Amnesty Offer

REF: Lagos 12374 *pl 27-9 before Nigeria*
*9565*Request Embassy evaluation of report that amnesty in fact extended
by Gowon to all rebels, including Ojukwu, as mentioned reftel.

END

MICROFILMED BY RS.R

RUSK

Drafted by:

AF/W:GBS *Sherry*:11 9/9/68Tel. Ext.
5462Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:Nigeria Task Force *RW* Melbourne

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DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 25, USIA 12, RSR 01, 155 W

P 091145Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2453
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
CINCSSTRIKE/CINCMCAFSA
DIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12461

SUBJ: ICRC DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS

1. CANADIAN RUCOM HERE TELLS US THEIR GENEVA MISSION
LEARNED FROM ICRC LAST WEEK THAT OJUKWU TOLD LINDT HE
WOULD USE FORCE IF NECESSARY TO PREVENT DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS
TO ULI-IHIALA (ANNABELLE) AIRSTRIP.

2. CAN GENEVA CONFIRM?

GP-3

MATHEWS

①

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By MNARA Date 10/3/05

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 Department of State **TELEGRAM** *NIGERIA*

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INFO EUR 15, IO 13, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DGDE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
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 ACDA 16, AID 28, PC 04, RSR 01, SE 01, T49 W

R 091100Z SEP 68
 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2452
 INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
 AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 12460

SUBJ: NIGERIA

REF: USUN 6428, *POL 27-9 Biafra Nigeria*

I BELIEVE THAT INITIATIVES BY NON-AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS
 TO PLACE NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR ON UNGA AGENDA SHOULD BE HELD IN
 ABEYANCE UNTIL AFTER OAU HEADS OF STATE MEETING. WE
 HAVE ALREADY HAD AMPLE EVIDENCE FROM ADDIS OF RESENTMENT
 ETHIOPIANS AND OTHER AFRICANS AT WHAT THEY TAKE TO BE NON-
 AFRICAN INTERFERENCE IN OAU MATTER.

GP-3

MATHEWS

ENCLOSURE 1

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*LAGOS 12460
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INFO EUR 15, TO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 02, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, NSA 02, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02,

AID 28, F 15, AGR 20, SAH 02, RSR 01, 1191 W

R 091135Z SEP 68
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8815
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USUN NEW YORK 2336

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4732

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: A) GENEVA 4727; B) STATE 234192

1. ICRC INFORMS NINE FERNANDO-PO/BIAFRA FLIGHTS NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 7 CARRYING 79.8 TONS AND TWO MEDICAL PERSONNEL. NINE FLIGHTS AGAIN NIGHT SEPTEMBER 8, CARRYING ABOUT SAME TONNAGE, AND AGAIN TWO MEDICAL PERSONNEL. FLIGHTS DIVIDED BETWEEN TWO AIRSTRIPS, BUT AGAIN ICRC GENEVA DOESN'T KNOW IN WHAT PROPORTIONS.

2. MISSION HOPES HAVE MORE DETAIL PARAS 4 AND 5 REF A TOMORROW.
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GENEVA-4732
9-9-68

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CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, RSR 01, 177 W

R 091430Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1934
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1725

SUBJ BIAFRA AIRLIFT

1. SIZEABLE AIRLIFT OF ORPHANED BIAFRAN CHILDREN TO GARON
IS DUE COMMENCE THIS WEEK. MME. BONGO HAS MADE RADIO
APPEAL TO GARONESE WOMEN TO PROVIDE ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE.
TWO HUNDRED BED RECEPTION CENTER IS TO BE
ESTABLISHED.

2. THERE THREE LARGE TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT AT AIRPORT THIS
MORNING POSSIBLE IN CONNECTION THIS PROJECT. ONE CONSTELLATION
REGISTRATION F-BRAD. ONE FOUR-MOTORED AIRCRAFT
REGISTRATION F-BOEX PAINTED BLUE AND WHITE AND BEARING
NAME TRANSUNTONV THIS AIRCRAFT WAS HERE SEPT 4 AND 5, DEPARTED,
AND RETURNED APPARENTLY THIS MORNING WITH LARGE
REDCROSS PAINTED ON FUSELAGE NEAR TAIL. FINALLY, THERE
IS LARGE TWIN ENGINE SINGLE TAIL AIRCRAFT WITH UNUSUAL
RATHER RECTANGULAR SHAPED FUSELAGE HIGH ENOUGH EASILY
ACCOMMODATE TWO DECKS AND WITH COCKPIT IN RUBBLE ON TOP
FORWARD PORTION. WE NOT FAMILIAR WITH THIS TYPE AIRCRAFT.
REGISTRATION IS FRENCH BUT REMAINDER OF IDENTIFICATION
LETTERS AND NAME OF LINE NOT LEGIBLE FROM POINT OF OBSERVATION.

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WILL ATTEMPT IDENTIFY MORE CLOSELY.

3. DC -4 D-ADAR AND TWO ZAMBIAN DC-3'S FLEW NIGHT SEPT
7-8 AND AT LEAST ONE OF LATTER FLEW NIGHT SEPT 8-9. GP 3 NELSON

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ACTION IO 15

INFO AF 10, EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, NSA 02, AID 28, ORM 03, SR 01, SAH 02,

RSR 01, /147 W

R 092339Z SEP 68
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3101
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
/AMEMBASSY LAGOS 354
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 6444

BIAFRA

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH MAKONNEN (ETHIOPIA) TODAY, BALL SOUGHT HIS VIEWS ON PROSPECTS FOR FURTHER MOVEMENT ON BIAFRA DILEMMA. MAKONNEN SAID HIM NOT EASILY FRUSTRATED, VERY REGRETFUL THAT EFFORTS TO DATE HAVE NOT BORN FRUIT, BUT INTENDS TO PURSUE MATTER FURTHER IN ALGIERS MEETING. MAKONNEN SAID THERE IS "BIT OF HOPE" THAT FMG MAY BE INFLUENCED BY ALGIERS MTG TO LET HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS MOVE FORWARD AND THAT BEFORE HIM TAKES POSITION HE WISHES TO GIVE FURTHER CHANCE FOR AFRICAN FAMILY TO DEAL WITH ISSUE, THOUGH UN NOT RULED OUT.

2. BALL SAID LAST THING US WANTS IS TO INTERFERE WITH OAU OR HIM EFFORTS, BUT THAT IF THESE EFFORTS DO COME TO DEAD END HE WONDERED IF ANY PURPOSE BE SERVED BY HAVING STRICTLY HUMANITARIAN ITEM ON GA AGENDA. SAID US AND SCANDINAVIANS GIVING THOUGHT TO THIS AND GUIDANCE FROM ETHIOPIAN GOVT WOULD BE VERY IMPORTANT TO US.

3. MAKONNEN SAID IF THINGS CONTINUE UNRESOLVED THEN SOMETHING WILL HAVE TO BE DONE. OAU EFFORT COULD BE SUPPLEMENTED BY UN. SAID HIM WOULD NOT WANT ALL RESPONSIBILITY PLACED ON

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HIM IF NO PROGRESS MADE AND TRAGEDY CONTINUES DESPITE HIS
BEST EFFORTS. MAKONNEN SAID HE WOULD SEEK INSTRUCTIONS AS
SOON AS CONFERENCE IN ALGIERS CONCLUDES AND BE IN TOUCH WITH
BALL THEN. BALL SAID IN MEANTIME US AND SCANDINAVIANS WOULD
REFLECT FURTHER; EMPHASIZED DEEP ANXIETY OF PEOPLE IN
US AND ELSEWHERE TO TRAGEDY OF ACTUAL AND IMPENDING STARVATION
OF SO MANY PERSONS.

GP-4.

BALL

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By	MW/ARA
Date	10/3/05



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ACTION ID 15

INFO AF 10, EUR 15, AID 28, ORM 03, SR 01, SAH 02, SA 01, ARA 08, EA 10,

NEA 13, RSC 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10,

P 04, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, NSA 02, ACDA 16, SAL 01, RSR 01, /196 W

R 092339Z SEP 68
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3102
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION GENEVA

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NIGERIA

1. SUSAN DURR OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE TO KEEP BIAFRA ALIVE CALLED ON MISOFF WITH TWO ASSOCIATES TO SUBMIT MEMORANDUM PREPARED BY PROF. REISMAN OF YALE UNIVERSITY RE URGENT GA CONSIDERATION OF HUMANITARIAN RELIEF TO NIGERIA. MEMO WAS ALSO SEND PRES. JOHNSON AND SECRETARY OF STATE. IN ADDITION TO MEMORANDUM DURR GAVE MISOFF COPY OF PETITION TO BALL. FOL IS TEXT OF PETITION SIGNED BY PAUL CONNETT, CHAIRMAN FOR THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE TO KEEP BIAFRA ALIVE:

"AS IT HAS BECOME ABUNDANTLY CLEA THAT NIGERIA IS WAGING A WAR OF GENOCIDE AGAINST BIAFRA, WE DEMAND THAT THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT IMMEDIATELY MOVE FOR AN EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR MAKE THE BIAFRAN CRISIS A MATTER OF URGENT AGENDS ATTENTION TO INITIATE HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTION IN BIAFRA AND TO UNDERTAKE SUCH HUMANITARIAN ACTION OR DESIGNATE OTHER AGENCIES TO DO SO."

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2. DKURING TWO-HOUR DISCUSSION WITH MISOFF, DURR AND HER COLLEAGUES STATED THEY WANTED UN TO MEET URGENTLY BEFORE IT WAS TOO LATE. THEY FELT IT SHOULD GIVE DIRECTIVES TO OAU (OR ANY OTHER AGENCY) TO CARRY OUT MASSIVE RELIEF TO CIVILIAN VICTIMS OF CIVIL WAR. BOTH DESCRIBED SITUATION AS CASE OF GENOCIDE. WHEN ASKED ABOUT TITLE OF COMMITTEE, DURR AND HER COLLEAGUES SAID COMMITTEE WAS CONCERNED NOT WITH BIAFRAN VICTIMS SOLELY BUT WITH ALL REPEAT ALL CIVILIAN VICTIMS OF WAR. THEY DID NOT CONDONE SECESSION OF BIAFRA, BUT FELT IBOS HAD CASE AGAINST FMG RE MASSIVE EXTINCTION OF THEIR TRIBE. ALSO POINTED OUT OAU AT PRESENT TIME DID NOT APPEAR TO BE DOING ANYTHING DESPITE TALKS GOING ON IN ADDIS.

3. MISOFF REVIEWED PROBLEMS IN UN CONSIDERATION OF MATTER AND PROMISED TO CONVEY MEMORANDUM TO APPROPRIATE PERSONS IN DEPT.

DECON IN ONE MONTH.

BALL

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NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, SCS 04, SCA 02, SAH 02,

AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, E 15, AGR 20, RSR 01, 189 W

P R 081430Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2448
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 448

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION ONE OF TWO LAGOS 12456/1

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: A. STATE 234192
B. STATE 234136

1. IN RESPONSE REF. A, WE UNABLE OBTAIN INFORMATION FROM ICRC LAGOS ON OVERALL NIGERIAN RELIEF PROGRAM SINCE ICRC HERE CONFINES OPERATION EXCLUSIVELY TO FMG HELD AREA. THUS, INFORMATION WHICH FOLLOWS NECESSARILY INCOMPLETE, AND WE STILL UNABLE GET REALLY HARD STATISTICS ON SUPPLIES ON HAND IN VARIOUS LOCATIONS AND ON FIELD DISTRIBUTION. POINTS SPECIFICALLY RAISED IN FRIENDLY JUNIOR NYTIMES ARTICLE SEPT. 6 (REF. B) COVERED IN OUR REPLY.

2. SUPPLIES:

A. TO MEET REQUIREMENTS PRESENT SCOPE OPERATIONS FMG HELD AREA, ICRC AIM- AND HAS BEEN FOR SOME TIME- IS TO MAINTAIN 1700 TONS ENUGU, 1200 TONS CALABAR, AND 800 TONS AGBOR AS RELIEF AREA REVOLVING STOCK. THESE THREE AREAS ARE RESUPPLIED THROUGH STOCKPILE LAGOS. AT PRESENT, ICRC ESTIMATES STOCKS ENUGU IN EXCESS 1000 TONS; CALABAR STOCKPILE CONSIDERABLY DRAWN DOWN; ABOUT 300 TONS AGBOR. ENUGU STOCK EXPECTED REACH 1700

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TONS WITHIN TEN DAYS WHEN ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES BY AIR, TRUCK AND RAIL EXPECTED ARRIVE. CALABAR STOCKPILE DRAWN DOWN DUE 300 300 TONS WEEKLY DISTRIBUTION RATE (SOON UP TO 500 TONS WEEKLY), AND RECENT DIFFICULTIES TRANSPORTING SUPPLIES CALABAR BY AIR AND SEA (AS RESULT TEMPORARY SUSPENSION CIVILIAN FLIGHTS AND DIFFICULTY OBTAINING SPACE NIGERIAN VESSELS). 1000 TONS SCHEDULED DEPART ON MINNA SCHUPP FOR CALABAR SHORTLY WILL AUGMENT AIR SHIPMENTS WHICH RESUMED AUGUST 31.

B. ACCORDING ICRC, RELIEF STOCKS LAGOS CURRENTLY ABOUT 2500 TONS, AND EXPECTED REACH 10,000 TONS SOON.

C. HOCHE, ICRC, BELIEVES FERNANDO PO STOCKS NOW TOTAL BETWEEN 3500 AND 4000 TONS. HE UNABLE COMMENT ON FRIENDLY REPORT THAT FERNANDO PO STOCKS WOULD SOON BE DISPLACED BY COCOA CROP. AMERICAN BUSINESSMAN WHO RECENTLY RETURNED FROM SANTA ISABEL TOLD US, HOWEVER, THAT LIMITED STORAGE SPACE THERE WOULD SOON BE NEEDED FOR COCOA.

D. WE AND ICRC UNAWARE BASIS FOR SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION FIGURES FRIENDLY REPORT (PARA 2 REF B). PILFERAGE, OF COURSE, INEVITABLE AND IF KEPT TO RATE FRIENDLY ALLEGES, WOULD NOT REPEAT NOT BE EXCESSIVE AND PROBABLY IN LINE WITH OTHER RELIEF OPERATIONS IN UNDER-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.

E. ICRC STATES LOCAL PURCHASES FOODSTUFFS CONTINUING AS REQUIRED AND HAVE TOTALED ABOUT 1500 TONS SO FAR. COMMENT: THIS DIFFERS FROM EARLIER REPORT (LAGOS 12032) GIVEN US BY ICRC OFFICIAL WHICH INDICATED LOCAL PURCHASES 2000 TONS.

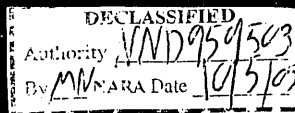
3. TRANSPORTATION:

A. TRUCKS. ICRC HAS ABOUT 55 TRUCKS (5 AND 7 TONNERS) CURRENTLY ON HAND. THIRTY ADDITIONAL EXPECTED WITHIN NEXT THREE WEEKS FROM UK AND WEST GERMANY. 25 TRUCKS NOW IN ENUGU. THESE POSITIONED FOR POSSIBLE LAND CORRIDOR USE, AND CURRENTLY ENGAGED DELIVERIES ENUGU AREA AS WELL AS TRANSPORT OF LOCALLY PURCHASED FOODSTUFFS. 15 TRUCKS NOW IN CALABAR AREA (FRIENDLY ARTICLE STATES TWO). CALABAR TRUCK INVENTORY TO BE DOUBLED SOON, AS 5 TRUCKS TO BE LOADED ON MINNA SCHUPP AND 10 OTHERS FROM WEST GERMANY TO BE DELIVERED IN NEXT TEN DAYS. IN ADDITION MOST OF 15 RELIEF TEAMS IN FIELD EQUIPPED WITH ONE TRUCK FOR TEAM DISTRIBUTION AS WELL AS ONE LANDROVER. COMMENT: THREE ICRC TRUCKS RECENTLY ARRIVED CALABAR OVERLAND VIA ENUGU. THIS MIGHT EXPLAIN REFERENCE TO 25 TRUCKS ENUGU ENROUTE CALABAR FRIENDLY ARTICLE (PARA 3 REF B) WHICH APPARENTLY CONFUSED WITH 25 TRUCKS POSITIONED ENUGU.

B. AIRCRAFT: TWO DC-4S CHARTERED FROM PAN AFRICAN OPERATING TWO FLIGHTS EACH DAILY TO ENUGU AND CALABAR WITH NINE TON LOADS.

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FLIGHTS RESUMED AUGUST 31. THIRD DC-4 EXPECTED "SOON", AND FOURTH "IN TWO WEEKS." TWO HELICOPTERS CAPABLE TRANSPORTING 1 TON LOADS CHARTERED BY UNICEF FOR ICRC DISTRIBUTION OPERATING IN CALABAR AREA, ARRIVED LAGOS SEPT 1. PILOT FOR OPERATION TELLS US FLIGHT CHECKS, OBTAINING PARTS AND CLEARANCES, WILL REQUIRE ADDITIONAL WEEK BEFORE OPERATION CAN COMMENCE CALABAR. SIX-SEATER CESSNA IS CHARTERED BY ICRC FOR INTERNAL MOVEMENT OF PERSONNEL.

C. SHIPS: TWO 535-TON CAPACITY COASTAL VESSELS CHARTERED BY ICRC FROM DANISH FIRM FOR LAGOS-CALABAR SUPPLY SHUTTLE. ARRIVAL OF FIRST VESSEL, BALTIC PROCTOR, DELAYED ONE WEEK AND NOW SCHEDULED SEPT 14. SECOND VESSEL EXPECTED "ABOUT SAME TIME." (COMMENT: ARRIVAL THERE TWO COASTERS SHOULD SOLVE PROBLEM SUPPLY IN CALABAR. AS INDICATED, MINNA SHCHUPP (NIGERIAN CHARTER) DEPARTURE OF WHICH HAS BEEN DELAYED, EXPECTED TO TRANSPORT 1000 TONS SUPPLIES AND THREE TRUCKS CALABAR SHORTLY). D. BARGES AND FERRIES: FERRY, CALABAR-ORON, AND BARGES TRANSPORTING RELIEF SUPPLIES CALABAR-NWANIBA (FOR UYO AND IKOT-EXPENSE ARE) NOW OPERATING SATISFACTORILY.

4. ICRC RELIEF ORGANIZATION (FMG HELD AREA).

A. ICRC RECOGNIZED AS OVERALL RELIEF COORDINATOR BY FMG AND VOLAGE. ICRC HEAD OF DELEGATION (SCHURCH) ASSISTED BY HOCKE AND TEAM OF NINE TECHNICIANS IN LAGOS OFFICE (DOCUMENTATION OFFICER, AIR TRANSPORT, SEA TRANSPORT, TECHNICAL ASST., PHARMACIST, ACCOUNTANT, RADIO, FIELD COORDINATOR AND WELCOME OFFICER). IN ADDITION, 6-MAN VEHICLE MAINTENANCE TEAM ASSIGNED LAGOS.

B. TWO ICRC PERSONNEL (HITZ AND BEAUD) ASSIGNED TO RELIEF OPERATIONS COORDINATION CENTER WHICH HEADED BY CHIEF DUO, CHAIRMAN, NIGERIAN RED CROSS (NRC). NATIONAL RELIEF ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF VOLAGS, SECRETARY NRC, ICRC, AND DELEGATE NORDIC RED CROSS, TO ADVISE COORDINATION CENTER ON SUPPLIES AVAILABLE AND HOW CONTRIBUTIONS CAN BE USED.

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AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, E 15, AGR 20, RSR 01, /189 W

P R 081430Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2449
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
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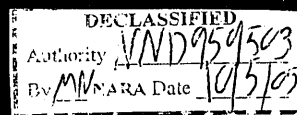
C. THUS FAR WE ARE IMPRESSED WITH ICRC LAGOS DIRECTOR SCHURCH WHO, OF COURSE, HAS BARELY HAD OPPORTUNITY GET STARTED. HE SEEMS AMENABLE TO SUGGESTION, IS CALM AND ORDERLY IN HIS APPROACH, IN IDENTIFYING PERSONNEL AND FUNCTIONAL GAPS IN ORGANIZATION AND ATTEMPTING FILL THEM. HE CLEARLY THINKING IN LARGER MORE REALISTIC TERMS THAN HIS PREDECESSORS, VOLUNTARY AGENCY PEOPLE, WHO HAVE ON OCCASION BEEN QUITE CRITICAL ICRC OPERATIONS, SHARE OUR VIEW THAT SITUATION IMPROVING. ICRC HAS NOT REPEAT NOT ALWAYS BEEN GRACEFULLY ACCEPTED BY VOL AGS WHO HAVE BEEN ON SCENE, INTEND TO REMAIN AND LIKE OPERATION TO BE IDENTIFIED WITH THEM.

D. TEAMS IN FIELD: 15 MEDICAL/RELIEF TEAMS NOW IN FIELD AT FOLLOWING LOCATIONS: ENUGU, NSUKKA, IDAH, AWGU, ABAKALIKI, AFIKPO, OBUBRA, OBUDU, OJI RIVER (ENUGU), IKOT EKPENE (UYO), UYO, ABAK (2), AGBOR (2). IN ADDITION, GERMAN RC TEAM NOW IN LAGOS GOING TO ITU, AND SWEDISH TEAM NOW IN LAGOS NOT YET ASSIGNED. SUPPLY AND TRANSPORT TEAMS ALSO STATIONED ENUGU (WHICH ALSO HAS VEHICLE MAINTENANCE SHOP), CALABAR AND AGBOR. TOTAL FIELD COMPLEMENT INCLUDING TWO TEAMS ABOUT LEAVE LAGOS 156. ICRC PLANNING STAFF FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS: ACHI, AWKA, IKOT IBRITAM, ETINAN, OPOBO, IKOT EKPENE (2ND), ORON, PORT HARCOURT, BORI, WARRI, ASABA (ONITSHA).

E. ASSESSMENT ICRC FIELD OPERATIONS: ICRC FIELD COORDINATOR, BULLE, FREQUENT CRITIC ICRC OPERATIONS, RECENTLY RETURNED FROM

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TOUR RELIEF AREA WELL SATISFIED WITH SUPPORT FOR FIELD OPERATIONS. BULLE SAID ADEQUATE STOCKS AVAILABLE IN FIELD SUPPLY DEPOTS AND TRANSPORT SUPPLIES FUNCTIONING SMOOTHLY TO RELIEF TEAMS. SINCE MILITARY NO LONGER OPERATING FROM CALABAR AS SUPPLY BASE, PROBLEM TRANSFER SUPPLIES FROM CALABAR TO IKOT EKPENE AREA EASED AS CALABAR-ORON FERRY CAN NOW BE RELIABLY UTILIZED IN ADDITION TO BARGE MOVEMENT NWANIBA (UYO). BULLE SPOKE HIGHLY OF CAPABILITY ICRC TRANSPORT TEAMS ENUGU AND CALABAR. BOTH BULLE AND HITZ MAKE POINT THAT SPORADIC MILITARY ACTION CONTINUES HAMPER FULL RELIEF OPERATIONS IKOT-EKPENE AREA.

5. EXTENT COOPERATION BETWEEN ICRC-VOLAGS-FMG:

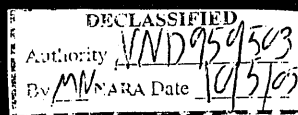
A. VOLAGS (CRS, CWS, CARE, CCN, SAVE THE CHILDREN, OXFAM) HOLD REGULAR WEEKLY MEETINGS WITH ICRC AND NRC. IN ADDITION, THEY MEET FREQUENTLY AS GROUP AND ARE CURRENTLY PREPARING COMPREHENSIVE RELIEF PROGRAM PLAN ON OWN INITIATIVE TO DETERMINE OVERALL NEEDS. VOLAGS DO NOT APPEAR QUARREL WITH FACT OF ICRC ROLE AS OVERALL COORDINATOR, BUT DO BELIEVE THEY HAVE QUALIFIED PEOPLE EXPERIENCED IN BOTH RELIEF OPERATIONS AND IN LOCAL SCENE WHO CAN BE USED MORE EFFECTIVELY WITHIN THE ICRC STRUCTURE. IN GENERAL, THEY BELIEVE ICRC ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF MUST BE STRENGTHENED WITH NOT ONLY MORE PERSONNEL TO DO JOB, BUT ALSO MORE PERSONNEL EXPERIENCED IN RELIEF WORK. WE UNDERSTAND THAT THEY HAVE CABLED LINDT REQUESTING MEETING WITH HIM DURING NEXT TRIP LAGOS IN ORDER PRESENT "COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM PLAN" AND SEEK GREATER PARTICIPATION VOLAGS IN PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION NIGERIAN RELIEF PROGRAM UNDER ICRC. EXISTENCE OF PLAN AND INTENT VOLAGS MEET WITH LINDT SHOULD NOT BE PUBLICLY DISCLOSED.

6. RELIEF ACTIVITIES FEDERAL ARMY:

WE HAVE NOTED REPORTS THAT FEDERAL ARMY HAS DISTRIBUTED FOOD SUPPLIES WHEN AVAILABLE AND POSSIBLE. INTERESTING NOTE THAT VOA CORRESPONDENT KELLY WHO JUST RETURNED FROM ABA SAW ARMY DISTRIBUTING TWO TRUCKLOADS RICE, GARRI, BEANS, STOCKFISH TO REMAINING POPULACE. THRID MARINE COMMANDO HAS REHABILITATION OFFICER CHARGED WITH DISTRIBUTION ACTIVITIES AS WELL AS MEDICAL OFFICER. KELLY ALSO SAW STOCKPILE FOOD AND MEDICINE PORT HARCOURT. MATHEWS

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Origin

Info

ACTION: Bishop Edward E. Swanstrom
Catholic Relief Services
United States Catholic Conference
Empire State Building
350 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

STATE

Tried to call you seven pm last evening but could not reach you.
Regret apparent misunderstanding USX position set forth/your tele- immediately
gram. Our position is as follows: We are prepared grant license /
provided you obtain and convey to us ICRC assurances operation con-
sistent its current humanitarian efforts and it has no objections.
We ~~xxx~~ feel we must require this since we strongly committed to
assist ICRC in its humanitarian efforts to bring assistance to
needy on both sides Nigerian civil conflict and it presently en-
gaged important negotiations towards this end.

END

Joseph Palmer 2nd
Joseph Palmer 2nd
Assistant Secretary of State
for African Affairs

END

RUSK

86L 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

AF Drafted by *P/Rm*
A/JPalmer 2nd
Clearance

Tel. Ext.

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Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

A/JPalmer 2nd

U/NKatzenbach *mk/rm*
G/PM-MC:Mr Koumanelis (Info) *rm*

White House-Mr. Bromley Smith (Subs) *rm*

FORM 8-65 DS-322

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INFO EUR 15, TO 13, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, SAH 02, AID 28, SCS 04,

SCA 02, SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01, 107 W

R 070920Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1959
INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NEW YORK 94
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 6436

SUBJECT: VISIT TO NORWAY OF NIGERIAN INFO MINISTER

REF: OSLO 6341, 6323, USUN 6377 — POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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1. NORWEGIAN PRIMIN BORTEN TOLD VISITING NIGERIAN INFORMAN-
TION MINISTER ENAHORO SEPT 4, IN CLOSED MEETING, THAT
NORWEGIAN PUBLIC, WHICH STRONGLY ENGAGED BY EVENTS IN
NIGERIA, THINKS BIAFRA SHOULD BE ABLE DETERMINE OWN
POLITICAL FUTURE.

2. FONOFF PARTICIPANT BORTEN/ENAHORO MEETING TOLD ENBOFFS
ENAHORO CONVINCED NORDIC GOVTS USING RELIEF ACTION AS
POLITICAL WEAPON AGAINST NIGERIA THAT ICRC IN THIS POSE

IS TOOL OF NORDICS. HE ALSO OF OPINION THAT NORDIC
DEMARCHES FMG AUG 30 (SEE 6323) CARRIED IMPLIED THREAT
RECOGNITION OF BIAFRA. ENAHORO INFORMED THIS ASSUMPTION
BASED ON "MISUNDERSTANDING". SOURCE REPORTED THAT CABINET
HAS NEVER DISCUSSED QUESTION RECOGNITION BIAFRA. HE SAID
MOST OF CABINET AND GOVT REALIZE RECOGNITION NOT APPROPRIATE.

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, JO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SC 02, SCS 04, SAH 02, RSR 01,
CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 25, USIA 12, NSA 02, 156 W

R 071015Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1928
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1717

SUBJ: BIAFRA

THE TWO ZAMBIAN DC-3'S FLEW NIGHTS OF SEPT 4-5 AND 5-6 AND
ONE OF THEM NIGHT OF SEPT 6-7. DC-4 F-RBDQ, AFTER BEING
LOCATED AIRPORT MILITARY AREA TWO DAYS ALSO FLEW NIGHT OF
SEPT 6-7. ALL AIRCRAFT BACK AT LIBREVILLE AIRPORT THIS
MORNING. ZAMBIAN DC-3 REGISTRATION 9J-RIG NOW BEARING
NUMBER 704-B. DC-4 D-ADAR HAS NOW HAD ITS IDENTIFYING
LETTERS REMOVED.
GP-3 BANE

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INFO EUR 15, TO 13, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CCO 00, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03,

SCA 02, SCS 04, RSR 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, HI 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, SAH 02, / 142 W

O P 071655Z SEP 68 ZFF-4
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8811
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USUN NEW YORK 2334

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4726

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REFERENCE SMITH MISSION TELECON, ICRC HAS HAD NO LATE REPORT
FROM LINDT IN FERNANDO PO, INDICATING NO REPEAT NO PROGRESS
ON DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS. ICRC VIC-PRESIDENT PICTET DEPARTING
GENEVA FOR FERNANDO PO THIS EVENING TO MEET WITH LINDT AND
PROCEED WITH HIM TO LAGOS FOR TALKS WITH FMG AND ICRC REPS THERE.
WILL PURSUE QUESTION LAND CORRIDOR, WHICH TAKES ON EVEN GREATER
URGENCY IN VIEW FACT, ACCORDING PICTET, BATTLE LINES NOW DANGER-
OUSLY CLOSE BOTH BIAFRAN AIRSTRIPS NOW BEING USED BY ICRC.

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 Department of State **TELEGRAM**
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 CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
 RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, AGR 20, E 15, 189 W

P R 071655Z SEP 68
 FM USMISSION GENEVA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8812
 AMEMBASSY LAGOS
 INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 USUN NEW YORK 2335

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4727

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: A) STATE 234192 (NOTAL); B) GENEVA 4690

1. FOLLOWING UPDATING INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM ICRC PERSONNEL AVAILABLE ON WEEKEND.

2. ROETHLIN (LINDT'S GENEVA STAFF CHIEF) REPORTS LITTLE WORD FROM LINDT SINCE HIS RETURN FERNANDO PO FROM BIAFRA. IN VIEW BIAFRAN UNWILLINGNESS GO ALONG WITH LINDT GOWON AGREEMENT USE ULI (ANNABELLE) AIRSTRIIP FOR DAY RELIEF FLIGHTS, ICRC CONTINUING NIGHT FLIGHTS AS BEFORE BUT USING MORE PLANES AND OBILAGO (UTURU) AS WELL AS ULI AIRSTRIIP (REGARDING HIS EARLIER IMPRESSION BIAFRANS HAD RAISED POSSIBILITY THIRD AIRSTRIIP, REPORTED REF B, ROETHLIN SAYS IT IS NOW CLEAR BIAFRANS HAD INSISTED ON OBILAGO). ACCORDING ROETHLIN, ICRC MADE SIX FERNANDO PO/BIAFRA FLIGHTS NIGHT SEPT 5 (43 TONS OF FOOD AND SUPPLIES AND SIX NIGHT SEPT 6 (47 TONS). SIXTH PLANE, PROVIDED BY NETHERLANDS RED CROSS AND MAKING FIRST BIAFRAN FLIGHT SEPT 5, IS DC 7C (OTHER FIVE ARE 1 DC6A, 3 DC6B, AND 1 C-30; SEE GENEVA 4634).

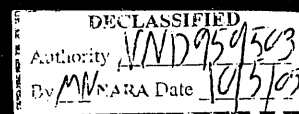
3. IN ABSENCE OF LAND CORRIDOR WHICH WOULD ENABLE MOVEMENT SUPPLIES NOW STOCKPILED ENUGU, CALABAR, ETC., ALL FOOD AND

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SUPPLIES ENTERING BIAFRA UNDER ICRC AUSPICES ARE FROM FERNANDO PO. ACCORDING ICRC OFFICIAL, 3,500 TONS GENERALLY REPORTED IN FERNANDO PO HAS BEEN ADDED TO BUT IS BEING REDUCED ABOUT 45 TONS EACH NIGHT BY ICRC FLIGHTS. 3,500 TONS PROBABLY REMAINS A GOOD ROUND FIGURE.

4. MEMBER LINDT'S GENEVA ICRC STAFF SAYS ABOUT 33 ICRC PERSONNEL ARE IN SANTA ISABEL AND BIAFRA. SOME ARE MEDICAL BUT MOST ARE DISTRIBUTION AND TECHNICAL.

5. SCANDINAVIAN TEAMS HAVE BEEN ARRIVING BIAFRA TO RUN, FOR EXAMPLE, CENTERS FOR CHILDREN SUFFERING ACUTE PROTEIN DEFICIENCY. ALTHOUGH THIS TECHNICALLY UNDER ICRC, SCANDINAVIAN RED CROSS SOCIETIES HAVE APPARENTLY SOMETIMES MOVED INDEPENDENTLY AND ICRC IS NOT CLEAR EXACTLY HOW MANY PERSONNEL ARE ON THE SPOT AND COMING. ICRC IS IN TOUCH THESE SOCIETIES AND HOPES HAVE CLARIFIED PICTURE NEXT WEEK, BUT NOT BY MONDAY. ICRC OFFICIAL MOST CLOSELY CONCERNED RELUCTANT GIVE ANY FIGURES FOR FEAR THEY MIGHT PROVE FAR FROM ACCURATE, BUT ANOTHER OFFICIAL GUESSED 50-60 SCANDINAVIAN PERSONNEL MIGHT ALREADY BE IN BIAFRA.

6. APART FROM ICRC OPERATIONS, CLANDESTINE CHURCH GROUP FLIGHTS ARE OF COURSE CONTINUING. NEW YORK TIMES STORY FROM SAO TOME SUMMARIZED PARA 4 STATE 233685 CHECKS CLOSELY WITH INFORMATION FROM MISSION'S CRS AND WCC CONTACTS. (E.G. GENEVA 4661).

7. ABOVE PARAGRAPHS RELATE TO BIAFRA. ON BROADER NIGERIAN FRONT, CHIEF OF ICRC RELIEF DIVISION (AMMANN) SAYS ICRC MEETING WITH LABOUISSIE OF UNICEF ON MONDAY, SEPT 9, WILL COVER INTER ALIA PROBLEMS COORDINATING ICRC, UNICEF, VOLAGS'S APPROACHES TO FAO AND GOVERNMENTS ON FOOD AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS. AMMANN ALSO REPORTS ICRC HAS ASKED UNICEF FOR SERVICES OF PLANNING OFFICER.

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Pal 27-9 Biafra -
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ACTION IO 15

INFO EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, NSA 02, SAH 02, AF 09, ARA 08, EA 10,
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R 071924Z SEP 68
FM USMISSION USUN NY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3086
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 6428

BIAFRA

1. IN MTG WITH UK AND DENMARK SEPT 7, BALL SAID THAT CONSIDERING WIDESPREAD PUBLIC PRESSURE IN US FOR SOME UN ACTION, THERE SHLD PROBABLY BE ITEM FOR GA AGENDA ON BIAFRA HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS. UNLESS OAU AND ADDIS TALKS SHOW EARLY HOPEFUL SIGNS OF SUCCESS. FOR PURPOSES OF CONTINGENCY PLANNING, HE INTERESTED IN KNOWING IF OTHERS CLD JOIN US IN SUBMITTING SUCH GA ITEM. BALL SAID HE WLD BE CONSULTING WITH ETHIOPIANS (BUT AGREED TO DELAY THIS UNTIL DANISH REP HAD INSTRUCTIONS FROM COPENHAGEN).

2. BORCH (DENMARK) SAID, IN ABSENCE OF SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS, HE ASSUMED NORDIC COUNTRIES WLD JOIN US IN SUBMITTING HUMANITARIAN BIAFRA ITEM TO GA. HE READ FROM NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTER'S COMMUNIQUE, WHICH CONTEMPLATES FURTHER STEPS WITHIN UN IF APPEALS MADE TO PARTIES FAIL. HE SAID SWEDISH AMB HAS PRESENTED NORDIC POSITION TO SYG, WHO WILL PROBABLY NOT REPLY, HOWEVER, UNTIL HIS RETURN SEPT 16 FROM TRAVEL. HE EMPHASIZED PRESSING NEED FELT IN NORDIC COUNTRIES RE BIAFRA HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS, AND SAID HE HAD SPOKEN DAILY TO SC MEMBERS AND HAS PUT OFF ASKING FOR SC ACTION ONLY DUE TO LACK ANY SUPPORT THEREFOR.

3. CARADON (UK) AGREED WITH US THAT GA ACTION PREFERABLE TO SC,

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Authority VND 959503
By MNA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 USUN N 06428 072057Z

BUT FELT EVEN FOR CONTINGENCY PLANNING PURPOSES DECISION
WLD BE PREMATURE NOW. ALTHOUGH BALL EMPHASIZED GA ITEM WLD BE
LIMITED TO HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS, CARADON SAID THERE WAS
STRONG RESISTANCE ON RELIGIOUS GROUNDS FOR ARABS AND SOME
AFRICANS AGAINST UN HANDLING OF BIAFRA. HE SAW DANGER OF GA
ITEM LEADING TO "DOG FIGHT" AMONG AFRICANS, BUT WLD
CONSULT HMG AND INFORM BALL AND BORCH.

GP-3

BALL

CONFIDENTIAL

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Authority	VND 950503
By	MNARA Date 10/3/03

66
OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

233683

SA

6 SEP 68 14 29z

FOR OC/T USE ONLY

Origin: ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS ~~XXXXXXXX~~ IMMEDIATE
Amembassy LONDON ~~XXXXXXXX~~ IMMEDIATE
Info: USMission GENEVA ~~XXXXXXXX~~ IMMEDIATE
INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
USMission NEW YORK PRIORITY

Subj: ICRC and Nigeria

Ref: X State 233541

First sentence reftel should read as follows: We do not believe representations to ICRC, as proposed in para 1 reftel, would be either appropriate or effective.

233683

RUSK

Drafted by: *RL* Tel. Ext. 6402 Telegraphic transmission and Roy M. Melbourne
AF:AFW:RPSmith:ba 9/8/68 classification approved by: Nigerian Task Force
Clearances:

AF-Amb. Moore (sub)
Rm

CONFIDENTIAL
Classification

FORM 8-65 DS-322

0716

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: *VND 954503*
Date: *10/5/03*

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

234192

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TOLIMITED OFFICIAL USE
ClassificationPRIORITY
PRIORITY

6 SEP 68 22 41z

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Origin
Info:

ACTION:

Amembassy LAGOS
USMission GENEVASTATE

1. Urgently request current detailed and updated report on relevant aspects Nigeria relief program. Report should include details on available supplies, transportation arrangements, relief organization, extent cooperation between ICRC, volags, and FMG, and specifics on extent ~~xxxxxx~~ progress being made with program.

2. As ICRC reported to have compartmented relief programs for Biafra and FMG controlled areas, Lagos may have incomplete info on relief activities. Accordingly request Geneva also respond to ~~xxxxxx~~ above as feasible.

3. Friendly Jr. story (Septel) today's N.Y. Times reports relief still not reaching majority of population in areas Biafra reoccupied by FMG. Report should include progress relief effort these areas. Department had understood from information given by returnees that effort well under way but Friendly story suggests this in question.

4. All above required by Monday Sept 9 for Department use in scheduled Congressional hearing. END

Drafted by:
AF/AFW:GBSherry/cs:9/6/68

Tel. Ext.
5462

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by Nigeria Task Force:RM Melbourne

Clearances:

RUSK

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FORM
8-65 DS-322

0717

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: WND 9503
By: MNARA Date: 10/5/03

46

POL 27-9 BAFERA-NIGERIA

234103

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

Origin
Info:

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS PRIORITY
INFO : USMission GENEVA

SEP 68 22 02z

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STATE _____

SUBJECT: Possibility of Epidemics - Nigeria

REF: A) Memcon, Aug 26, 1968; B) Lagos 12009; C) State 225984

1. Embassy will recall concern about possible epidemics in distressed areas in Nigeria expressed by Dr. John Mayer, of Harvard Medical School, during call of religious and civic leaders on Secretary Aug 26 (ref A). Mayer had suggested possible use of epidemiologists from National Communicable Disease Center (NGDC) in Atlanta to ascertain vulnerability of population to epidemics.

2. In view ICRC decision not utilize services of Dr. Foegen NGDC/Atlanta for this purpose (refs B and C), request Embassy discuss epidemic question with ICRC and provide info on how ICRC intends cope with this potential problem.

3. Would appreciate receipt of info by Sept 9. xx

END

RUSK

Drafted by:

AF/AFW:GBSherry:11 9/6/68

Tel. Ext.
5462

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

Nigeria Task Force: RMM Melbourne

Clearances:

AID/PRR/DRG:JHSstreet (subst) xbm

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FORM
8-65 DS-322

0718

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Authority: 11ND954503
By: MN/ARA Date: 10/5/03

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POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State
TELEGRAM

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA²⁰

CONFIDENTIAL 987

PAGE 01 LAGOS 12430 061743Z

49
ACTION IO 15

INFO AF 09, EUR 15, NSA 02, CIAE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 02, SCS 04,

SAH 02, PSR 01, 152 W

R 061630Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2435
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
CINCSRIKE/CINCMCAFSA
DIA

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 12430

SUBJECT: NIGERIA

REF: (A) USUN 6377; (B) LAGOS 12375

1. SWEDISH AMBASSADOR SWARTZ, WHO WAS ASKED TO CUT SHORT HIS LEAVE AND RETURN TO LAGOS BECAUSE OF INCREASING SWEDISH PRESENCE AND PROBLEMS IN NIGERIA, CALLED ON ME TODAY. HE SAYS THAT SWEDES ARE NOT INTERESTED IN TAKING NIGERIAN PROBLEM UP IN SC AND HAD PRESSED FOR TREATMENT OF PROBLEM STRICTLY AS HUMANITARIAN ISSUE IN RECENT NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS' MEETING.

2. SWARTZ SAYS INVITATION TO SWEDEN TO PARTICIPATE IN OBSERVER TEAM WAS WARMLY RECEIVED IN STOCKHOLM. HE HAD DISCUSSED THIS AT LENGTH WITH PERMSEC BABA GANA OF MINEXTAFFI TODAY, STRESSING SWEDISH DESIRE TO HAVE FREEDOM OF ACTION FOR THEIR OBSERVER AS WELL AS RIGHT TO COMMUNICATE DIRECTLY WITH STOCKHOLM. HE FOUND BABA GANA NOT QUITE AS FORTHCOMING AS HE HAD BEEN WITH CANADIAN HICOM (REF (B)) BUT

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By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

(11)



POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

XR DEF 19-8 FR-BIAFRA

XR POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

CONFIDENTIAL 632

PAGE 01 LIBREV 01710 061443Z

53
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, TO 13, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, SA 01, SAH 02, SCB 04,

SCA 02, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, PC 04, RSR 01, 161 W

R 060950Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1924
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS 605
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

CONFIDENTIAL LIBREVILLE 1710

SUBJECT: BIAFRA

REF: LIBREVILLE 1709 - POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

1. ISRAELI AMBASSADOR AVIMOR (PLEASE PROTECT) TOLD ME LAST EVE THAT HE KNEW PERSONALLY THAT PRES BONGO HAD RECENTLY PRESSED FRANCE INCREASE ITS AID AND SUPPORT BIAFRA AND THAT FRENCH HAD TURNED HIM DOWN. AVIMOR ALSO SAID THAT IN RECENT TALKS HE HAS HAD WITH BONGO, HE HAS GAINED IMPRESSION THAT BONGO FEELS ISOLATED ON BIAFRAN ISSUE AS WELL AS LET DOWN.

2. COMMENT: FOREGOING BEARS OUT IMPRESSION I GAINED IN MY TALK WITH BONGO YESTERDAY (REFTEL). THIS ALSO SUGGESTS THAT FRENCH DO NOT PLAN AUGMENT APPRECIABLY THEIR CURRENT LIBREVILLE BIAFRAN AIRLIFT OR ASSUME PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS OPERATION. WE DOUBT MOREOVER IF BONGO LIKELY GET MUCH PUBLIC OR MATERIAL SUPPORT FROM IVORY COAST, TANZANIA OR ZAMBIA FOR A MAJOR EFFORT ASSIST BIAFRAN LAST-DITCH MILITARY EFFORT. WE SUSPECT THAT BONGO IS BEGINNING TO FEEL THAT HE MAY TURN OUT

(3)

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Libreville 1710
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DEF 19-8 FR-BIAFRA

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Authority VND 954503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

37



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

48

Handwritten: 12/23/68

CONFIDENTIAL 139

PAGE 01 LAGOS 12431 061916Z

49
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SC 02, SCS 04, SAH 02, CIAE 02,

DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 02, L 23, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, ESC 01, SP 02,

SS 25, USIA 12, RSR 01, 1154 W

P 061640Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2436
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12431

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF - ICRC & LAND CORRIDOR

REF: STATE 233541

Handwritten: Pol 27-9 Biafra Nigeria
75 Sec 3 Head State

AMBASSADOR SPOKE WITH SWISS AMB. REAL AND ECON COUNSELOR
WITH SCHURCH, LAGOS ICRC DIRECTOR, CONVEYING SUBSTANCE
PARA 2 REFTEL. BOTH IN COMPLETE AGREEMENT AND SAID
WOULD URGE LINDT AUTHORIZE STEPS LEADING TO LAND
CORRIDOR MOVEMENT. REAL HOPES TO BE IN TOUCH WITH
LINDT LATE THIS AFTERNOON. SCHURCH POINTED OUT RELIEF
SUPPLIES IN QUANTITY NOW STOCKPILED ENUGU AND THIRTY
TRUCKS POSITIONED THERE AS WELL AS VEHICLE MAINTENANCE
SHOP.

GP-3. MATHEWS

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By	MN/ARA Date 10/3/05



Pol 27-9 Biafra-Nigeria
XR SOC 3 Red Cross
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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CONFIDENTIAL 167

PAGE 01 LONDON 12436 061929Z

44
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CCO 00, SSO 00, NSCE 00, DODE 00, CIAE 00, USIE 00, SS 25

GPM 04, SP 02, L 03, H 02, P 04, NSC 10, INR 07, NSAE 00, AID 28, SCS 04

SCA 02, SR 01, ORM 03, ACDA 10, RSR 01, RSC 01, 156 W

P 061714Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5914
AMEMBASSY ACCRA
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NEW YORK 1395

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 12436

SUBJECT: ICRC AND NIGERIA

REF: SECSTATE 233541 (NOTAL)

Pol 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
XR SOC 3 RED CROSS

1. WE CONVEYED CONTENTS PARA 2 REFTEL TO COMMONWEALTH OFFICE'S TEBBIT (HEAD, WEST AND GENERAL AFRICA DEPT) WHO LIKED IDEA AND SAID HE WOULD ASK BRITISH CONSUL GENERAL GENEVA TO MAKE SIMILAR APPROACH AFTER CHECKING WITH US MISSION REGARD TIMING.

2. ON SUBJECT OF OBSERVERS, TEBBIT SAID CO HAD BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN TRYING TO BREAK LORD HUNT LOOSE FROM HIS DUTIES WITH PAROLE BOARD. SECOND CHOICE FOR BRITISH OBSERVER WAS SIR HENRY ALEXANDER, RETIRED GENERAL OFFICER WHO HAD GOOD REPUTATION AS DEPUTY COMMANDER OF GHANAIAN ARMY. ALEXANDER WAS AVAILABLE AND BRITISH HOPED HE COULD DEPART FROM LAGOS EARLY NEXT WEEK. TEBBIT HAD NO NEW INFO ABOUT STATUS OF OTHER OBSERVERS BUT HE THOUGHT IN VIEW OF DOMESTIC PRESSURES HERE AND MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS IN IDOLAND THAT IT WAS IMPORTANT FOR BRITISH OBSERVER TO LEAVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. CO HOPES TO ANNOUNCE ALEXANDER'S APPOINTMENT BY THIS WEEKEND.

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By MNARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 LONDON 12436 061929Z

3. TEBBIT REALIZED ASSIGNMENT OF RETIRED MILITARY MAN COULD LEND ITSELF TO MISINTERPRETATION BY BIAFRANS. HE BELIEVED HOWEVER THAT ALEXANDER WAS RIGHT MAN FOR JOB AND THAT BY TEMPERAMENT AND EXPERIENCE HE WOULD BE ABLE MAKE HIS PRESENCE FELT AND, IF NECESSARY, EXERCISE RESTRAINING INFLUENCE ON NIGERIAN MILITARY.

4. BRITISH STILL BELIEVE LARGER NUMBERS OBSERVERS WILL BE REQUIRED TO FUNCTION EFFECTIVELY. THEIR PRESENT INTENTION IS TO ADVISE FMG THAT ALEXANDER WILL NEED DEPUTY AND, IF NIGERIANS GO ALONG WITH THIS, TO PRESS FOR ADDITIONAL OBSERVERS AFTER ALEXANDER AND HIS DEPUTY HAVE ESTABLISHED THEMSELVES. TEBBIT FEARED THAT MORE PRECIPITATE APPROACH TO FMG FOR ADDITIONAL OBSERVERS MIGHT JEOPARDIZE THE ENTIRE PROJECT. BRUCE

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By	MN NARA Date 10/5/05

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DOL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 086

PAGE 01 LAGOS 12428 061840Z

49
ACTION AF 15

INFO IO 13, EUR 15, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 02, SCS 04, RSR 01, SAH 02,
NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, 156 W.

R 061600Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2433
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12428

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF - UNICEF SHIPMENT

REF: STATE 233413
GENDRON LEFT FOR CALABAR THIS MORNING AND NOT RPT NOT
EXPECTED RETURN UNTIL MONDAY. WOULD HOPE UNICEF DECIDE
OFFLOAD ENTIRE 5,000 TONS LAGOS. QUANTITIES UNLOADED
SAO TOME WOULD NOT BE FORWARDED UNDER UMBRELLA OF ICRC.
ALSO POSSIBILITY FMG CAPTURE REBEL AIRSTRIPS IN NEAR
FUTURE WOULD ELIMINATE AIRLIFT. TRANSHIPMENT BY WATER
LIKELY TO BE DIFFICULT IN VIEW STRAINED RELATIONS BETWEEN
FMG AND PORTUGAL.

GP-3. MATHEWS

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By	MW NARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
23

CONFIDENTIAL 744

PAGE 01 LIBREV 01711 061527Z

53
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSC 10, F 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, SA 01, SAH 02, SCS 04,
SCA 02, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, PC 04, RSR 01, E 15, DOT 10, 186 W

R 060949Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1925
INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1711
NC

REF: PARIS 20396 NOTAL

SUBJ: BIAFRA

1. WE HAVE NO INDICATIONS HERE OF BONGO-INITIATED CON-
SULTATIONS ON BIAFRA AMONG GABON, IVORY COAST, TANZANIA,
AND ZAMBIA (PARA 2 REFTEL). ONLY PRESUMABLY RELATED ITEM
WE HAVE COME ACROSS IS SEPT 1-2 LE MONDE STORY REPORTING
BONGO HAD STATED TO ORTF HE WISHED PROPOSE JOINT AIRLIFT
TO IVORY COAST, TANZANIA, AND ZAMBIA FOR URGENT TRANSPORT
RELIEF SUPPLIES TO BIAFRA (PARA 2 LIBREVILLE 1697).

2. FACT IS, IT WOULD APPEAR BONGO BEING LEFT ALONE AND
WY OUT FRONT BY HIS FRIENDS. FRENCH HAVE APPARENTLY
TURNED DOWN HIS APPEAL FOR MORE ASSISTANCE TO BIAFRA
(LIBREVILLE 1710) AND AFRICANS WHO HAVE RECOGNIZED
BIAFRA SEEM TO BE STANDING FAST AND AVOIDING ANY MORE
COMMITMENT AND OPEN ACTIVITY. ZAMBIA HAS PROVIDED TWO
DC-3'S FOR AIRLIFT, BUT WE UNAWARE ANY ZAMBIAN MOVE PUBLIC.

① MICROFILMED BY 88/4
POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
DEC 19-8 FR-BIAFRA
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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Libreville 1711
9-6-68

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Authority VMD 954503
By MWA Date 10/3/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**
23

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PAGE 02 LIBREV 01711 061527Z

IZE FACT OR UNDERTAKE ANYTHING ELSE. SINCE EARLIER PRO-
VIDING HIS MYSTERY 20 FOR OJUKWU USE, HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY
APPEARS TO HAVE DONE LITTLE IF ANYTHING FOR BIAFRA. AND
WE'VE SEEN NO SIGN ANY TANZANIAN ACTIVITY. GP-3 BANE

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By	MN NARA Date 10/5/05

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POC 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
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CONFIDENTIAL 596

PAGE 01 GENEVA 04705 061408Z

50
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, IO 13, SCS 04, SCA 02, SAH 02, E 15,
DOT 10, SA 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, CCO 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00,
RSR 01, 168 W

P 061330Z SEP 68
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8790
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
USUN NEW YORK 2324

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4705

SUBJ: ICRC AND NIGERIA

REF: STATE 233541

1. GAVE GALLOPIN, DIRGEN ICRC, VIEWS EXPRESSED PARA 2 REFTEL.
SAID HE AGREED COMPLETELY NEED PRESSURE BIAFRANS RE LAND
CORRIDOR AND BELIEVES MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN LEADING
MOVEMENT SUPPLIES THEREBY. SAID HOPED GET THRU TO LINDI
TODAY, WHO RETURNED TO FERNANDO PO FROM BIAFRA LASTNIGHT. TUBBY

GENEVA-4705
9-6-68

CONFIDENTIAL

0727

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Authority VMD 9501503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05



25- POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04709 061655Z

45
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, AGR 20, AID 28, IGA 02,
CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 25, USIA 12, NSA 02, RSR 01, 176 W

R 061400Z SEP 68
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8794
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 4709

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: FOOD REQUIREMENTS

REF: AIDTO CIRCULAR XA 4229

1. SUBSTANCE REF CIRCULAR PASSED TO ICRC.

2. ICRC WELCOMED CONTRIBUTION. WILL CAREFULLY CONSIDER
IN CONJUNCTION ITS OWN PLANNING DATE AND COMMENT IN NEAR
FUTURE.

TUBBY

MICROFILMED BY 55.5

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Authority VND 959503
By MWA Date 10/3/05

63
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AF
Cont. House
11/11
Memorandum of Conversation

DATE: September 6, 1968

SUBJECT: Nigerian Relief

PARTICIPANTS: Vernon Ferweda, Formerly with National Council of Churches
Dr. George Shepherd, Editor of AFRICA TODAY
Harry Applewhite, United Church of Christ
Ambassador C. Robert Moore - AF *clm*
George B. Sherry - AF/W

COPIES TO: USMission GENEVA (1)
Amembassy LAGOS (1)
Amembassy LONDON (1)
1 AF - Ambassador Moore (2)
AF/W - R. M. Melbourne (2)

The three visitors, who represent the Action Committee of the United Church of Christ expressed the deepest interest in the suffering brought about by the civil war in Nigeria. They wanted to have the benefit of the Department's information on the situation in Nigeria and particularly in what remains of Biafra.

Ambassador Moore went into the Nigeria situation in some detail, noted the levels of US assistance made available to date and indicated that the problem in getting adequate relief supplies into Biafra still remained unsolved because neither side would agree on measures to make it possible. Even the daylight airlift arrangement recently agreed upon by the FMG and the ICRC is apparently not acceptable to the Biafrans. Ambassador Moore said the problem is not food, planes or people, but rather that of obtaining agreement by both sides to get the food where it is needed. A lengthy discussion of the situation followed, with the visitors appearing to accept the facts as outlined to them.

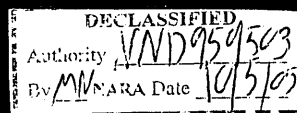
Dr. Shepherd raised the question of a unilateral US airlift into Biafra but appeared to appreciate the very serious consequences such a move would have when Ambassador Moore described them. Dr. Shepherd asked what the voluntary agencies might do to facilitate the movement of food and Ambassador Moore indicated that if they have any contacts in Biafra that a push should be made for Biafra's acceptance both of the air corridor and the land corridor that is vital if adequate supplies are ever able to reach the starving millions in Biafra. The visitors took note of this and indicated their hope that voluntary agencies might be able to do something on these lines.

AF/W:GBSherry *clm* 9/13/68
(Drafting Office and Officer)

FORM DS-1254
2-65

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Pol 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria

46

September 6, 1968

Honorable Florence P. Dwyer
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mrs. Dwyer:

The Secretary of State has asked me to reply to your letter of August 29 concerning the Nigerian problem.

We appreciate your interest and share your concern about this tragic situation. On September 3, the Federal Military Government of Nigeria agreed to a proposal of the International Committee of the Red Cross for regular daytime relief flights into Biafra for a period of ten days beginning on September 5. We hope that this agreement will be the forerunner of a more lasting one, and lead promptly to the establishment of land or river relief corridors which are still needed to bring adequate amounts of relief supplies to Biafra. A copy of the Nigerian Government press announcement of the agreement and a status report on the relief situation are enclosed.

I hope that the foregoing information and the enclosures are helpful. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

SSL/bw

William B. Macomber, Jr.
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

Enclosures:

As stated.

①

AF/AFW:FM Tucker:vcs 9/5/68

Retyped:H:GWinnett:tes 9/6/68x4286

Clearances: Nigeria Task Force:RMMelbourne

H Mr. Leahy

bw

Pol 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

0730

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: VIND 954503
By: MWA/ARA Date: 10/5/01

46

Honorable Florence P. Dwyer
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear ~~Mr.~~ ^{Ms} Dwyer:

The Secretary of State has asked me to reply to your letter ~~20th~~ of August 29 concerning the Nigerian problem.

We appreciate your interest and share your concern about this tragic situation. On September 3, the Federal Military Government of Nigeria agreed to a proposal of the International Committee of the Red Cross for regular daytime relief flights into Biafra for a period of ten days beginning on September 5. We hope that this agreement will be the forerunner of a more lasting one, and lead promptly to the establishment of land or river relief corridors which are still needed to bring adequate amounts of relief supplies to Biafra. A copy of the Nigerian Government press announcement of the agreement and a status report on the relief situation are enclosed.

I hope that the foregoing information and the enclosures are helpful. If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

William B. Macomber, Jr.
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

Enclosures:
As stated.

AF/AFW:FMT/cker:vcs:9/5/68
Clearances:
Nigeria Task Force:RMMeibourne
H:Mr. Leahy

FILED IN NIGERIA

0731

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Authority: VMD 950503
By: MN/ARA Date: 10/3/03

URGENT

A CONGRESSIONAL - FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

A reply or written acknowledgment must be made within Three Working Days (See 5 FAM 1524.3 or H - Guide Lines).

If for any reason, a problem is anticipated, drafting officer should immediately call H - Extensions 4286 or 7579.

M - 115
3 - 62

GPO 935559

0732

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Authority	VND 950503
By	MV NARA Date 10/5/03

FLORENCE P. DWYER
12TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
UNION-ESSEX SUBURBS, NEW JERSEY

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
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TELEPHONE: (202) 225-5361

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PLAINFIELD, NEW JERSEY 07060
TELEPHONE: (201) 754-6886

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

65
COMMITTEES:
BANKING AND CURRENCY
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

ACTION
is assigned to

AF

August 29, 1968

The Honorable Dean Rusk
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Secretary Rusk:

Although I realize that the State Department has been working for some time through international diplomatic channels to bring relief to the starving in Nigeria and Biafra, I strongly believe that it is essential that, regardless of the political difficulties involved, we immediately supply food to the starving. I urge this be accomplished immediately, and I request your every effort be directed toward this end.

I would also like a current status report of the situation.

Thank you for your attention.

Very sincerely,

Florence P. Dwyer
FLORENCE P. DWYER
Member of Congress

FPD:B

Del 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria

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Pol 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA



Department of State TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 580

PAGE 01 ADDIS 05573 051349Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, TO 13, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, AID 28, IGA 02, E 15, SR 01,
ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, SAH 02, RSR 01, 173 W

R 051210Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6919
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 5573

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF

1. WE DISCUSSED STATUS NIGERIAN RELIEF PROBLEM WITH MOFA
MINSTATE TESFAYE AND MINPALACE LAST EVENING AT EGAL RECEPTION.
TESFAYE SAID HIM MET YESTERDAY SEPARATELY WITH TWO DELS. FMG
DELS ASKED HIM NOT RPT NOT TO PRESS FURTHER NOW FOR FMG
ACCEPTANCE OBILAGO AIRFIELD BECAUSE THEY WERE NOT ABLE TO
GET FURTHER CONSIDERATION OF THIS PROPOSAL FROM LAGOS.

TESFAYE SAID HE HAD ADVISED HIM THAT FMG DEL REACTION SHOWED
CONSISTENT PRESSURE BEGINNING TO HAVE EFFECT AND HIM SHOULD
MAINTAIN PRESSURE FOR FMG ACCEPTANCE OBILAGO.

2. TESFAYE SAID BIAFRANS HAD TOLD HIM SEPT 3 THEY PROBABLY
WOULD ACCEPT USE OF ULI HIALA PROVIDING IT NOT NEUTRALIZED.
THEN, AFTER RELEASE LINDT-GOWON AGREEMENT, BIAFRANS HAD BEEN
INCENSED AND UNWILLING CONSIDER ANY PROPOSAL. WHEN HIM MADE
APPEAL YESTERDAY TO THEM TO ACCEPT LINDT-GOWON FORMULA, BIAFRANS
RESPONDED THAT THEY WOULD TRANSMIT TO OJUKWU WITH RECOMMENDATION
FOR ACCEPTANCE BUT NOT CERTAIN OJUKWU'S REPLY. TESFAYE SAID HIS
IMPRESSION THAT BIAFRANS HAD ALREADY DECIDED ACCEPT ULI HIALA
BECAUSE ARRANGEMENT WOULD ENSURE NO BOMBING OF FIELD FOR FEW
DAYS. TESFAYE EXPECTED, HOWEVER, OJUKWU WOULD INSIST ON MAKING

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Addis Ababa
9/5/68
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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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ANNOUNCEMENT, PERHAPS TODAY, FROM BIAFRA TO MAXIMIZE HIS OWN PROPAGANDA PROFIT AND TO PREVENT HIM TAKING PART OF CREDIT.

3. TEFAYE EXPRESSED VIEW RELIEF SYSTEM COULD MORE SENSIBLY USE OBILAGO UNDER OAU CONTROL, SO RELIEF AND MILITARY SHIPMENTS COULD BE CLEARLY SEPARATED AND POTENTIAL MISUNDERSTANDINGS MINIMIZED. UNDER THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES, IEG WOULD BE WILLING CONTRIBUTE TROOPS TO POLICE NEUTRALIZATION AND OPERATION CONTROL OF FIELD. WITHOUT INTERNATIONAL CONTROL OVER SUPPLY POINT, AND WITH DANGER OF CONFLICTS BECAUSE OF MERGED OPERATIONS SAME FIELD, HOWEVER, IEG COULD NOT CONSIDER ASSIGNMENT OF PERSONNEL TO RELIEF OPERATION.

4. TEFAYE AND MINPALACE LAST NIGHT GAVE ME STRONG IMPRESSION IEG FRUSTRATION WITH NIGERIAN NEGOTIATIONS, AND DISPOSITION TURN PROBLEM OVER TO OAU AT ALGIERS. BASED ON TALK WITH IEG OFFICIALS, IT HAS BEEN APPARENT SOME TIME THEY WOULD HAVE WASHED HANDS OF PROBLEM MUCH EARLIER IF IT HAD NOT BEEN FOR HIM'S DETERMINATION SEE AFFAIR THROUGH.

HALL

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MM NARA Date 10/5/05

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

TR 5003 RE 233294

RED CROSS

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Origin
Info

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS PRIORITY

US MISSION GENEVA

INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA
LONDON
PARIS

USUN
CINCSTRIKE
Amconsul IBADAN
Amconsul KADUNA

Subject: Nigeria

Following is excerpt Department Spokesman's noon briefing September 5:

QTE Question: There were reports of a lack or a need for more equipment to fly in the supplies to Biafra. Is the United States considering using military aircraft for this purpose?

Answer: No. Indeed, it is our understanding that the International Red Cross is hoping to get flights started. This grows out of an agreement, publicly announced by the Nigerian Government a day or so ago in Lagos, between General Gowon and Ambassador Lindt of the Red Cross, which provided for the ICRC to operate daylight flights carrying relief supplies from Fernando Po to an ~~xxxxxx~~ airstrip in Biafra -- this was supposed to have been for 10 days, and it was to have begun today.

Now, I don't know that it will begin today. Both the Federal Government there and the International Red Cross recognized that such emergency flights will be inadequate for the quantities of relief

AF/P:RLP Perkins:mb 9/5/68

Tel. Ext. 2105

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

Nigerian Task Force - Mr. Melbourne

Clearances:

P/ON - Mr. McCloskey
RM/RS

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Classification

FORM DS-322
8-65

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Authority: 11ND 954503
By: MN/ARA Date: 10/5/03

Page 2 of telegram to LAGOS & GENEVA

UNCLASSIFIED
Classification

supplies required and that movement along water and land corridors is also an essential. The Red Cross agreed to use its influence immediately on behalf of movement of additional supplies along those corridors.

An important contribution to this current agreement has been made by the negotiations at Addis which are being conducted by Emperor Haile Selassie. The United States is encouraged by this announcement and there should be no obstacles to these flights taking place soon.

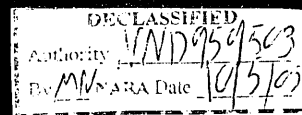
We would agree with the judgment that it is of utmost importance that land and water corridors be opened as an urgent matter. UNQTE

END

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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☐ CHARGE TO

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Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

INFO: Amembassy LONDON
USMission GENEVA
USUN NY

STATE

SUBJECT: Nigerian Relief: UNICEF Shipment

REF: Lagos 12348

1. DEPTOFF phoned Mr. Bridgewater, UNICEF, and without indicating source of info conveyed substance reftel emphasizing Gendron surprise and embarrassment. Bridgewater stated UNICEF did exercise option with shipping company to have 2000 tons off-loaded at Sao Tome and sent Gendron papers to this effect. Decision based partly on most recent communication Lagos/UNICEF dated August 30 which indicated that Lagos storage space at premium. However, no off-loading has yet taken place since ship delayed and will not reach Lagos until September 10 according to shipping company.

2. In addition, shipping company now asking UNICEF to revoke option since off-loading Sao Tome moving slowly, about 200 tons per day, and Scandinavian vessel presently in harbor discharging 1500 tons. Bridgewater indicated UNICEF reconsidering in view company plea to off-load entire 5000 tons Lagos.

3. Deptoff suggested that in view reftel UNICEF might wish contact Gendron before making final decision which must be made within next three days.

Bridgewater rather non-committal but said UNICEF/NY would probably try contact Gendron in view this info. END

Drafted by:

AFW:NEMorris:emb 9/5/68

Tel. Ext.
7574

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

Roy M. Melbourne

Nigeria Task Force

Clearances:

FFF - Mrs. Fitzcharles (subs) AFW - Mr. Smith (draft) RUSK

UNP - B. J. Jones (subs)

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Authority VND 954503
By MWA Date 10/5/00

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS PRIORITY
" LONDON PRIORITY
USMission GENEVA PRIORITY

Info

INFO : Amembassy ADDIS ABABA
USUN

Subj: ICRC and Nigeria

Ref: Lagos 12331

1. We do not believe representations to ICRC, as proposed in para 1

Lagos 12327, would be either appropriate or effective. Whatever deficiencies you may see

~~there may have been~~ in ICRC handling of its relations with FMG, it must be remembered it has been under very strong pressures from governments, Red

Cross Societies and voluntary agencies to get supplies moving into Biafra on humanitarian grounds. Our reading of Emperor's negotiations in Addis with both FMG and Biafrans has not encouraged us to believe FMG would have reached agreement with ICRC on airlift if it had not been confronted with situation of announced daytime ICRC flights into Biafran territory.

2. Just as pressures of a virtual ~~fait~~ accompli on airlift forced FMG hand, we fully agree that Biafrans should be confronted with somewhat parallel action-oriented situation with respect to land corridor as proposed in para 4 refel. Operation will undoubtedly necessitate Lindt's obtaining from FMG agreement to some imaginative arrangements to reassure Biafrans that at least for an agreed period of time FMG would not take military

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Drafted by: AF:CRMoor:ehc
AF:AFW:RPSmith:ba 5/5/68
Tel. Ext. 6402
Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: AF - Joseph Palmer 2nd

Clearances:

Nigeria Task Force-Mr. Maibouren
U - Mr. Katzenbach

S/S - Mr. Brown

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FORM 8-65 DS-322

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
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By: MNARA Date: 10/3/03

Page ² of telegram to LAGOS, LONDON, GENEVA, ADDIS ABABA USUN

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[advantage of proposed land corridor. But we feel strongly -- and experience on air lift reinforces this belief -- that land corridor operation should be mounted and onus put on Biafrans for accepting or refusing.]

3. For Geneva and Lagos: You should convey contents para 2 above to senior ICRC official available and urge it ~~be~~ be transmitted to Lindt ASAP. Lagos may prefer passing message through Ambassador Real.

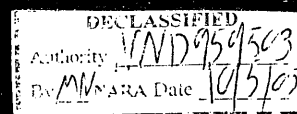
4. For London: Inform appropriate HMG officials of para ² ~~m~~ above and suggest British may wish make parallel demarche to ICRC.

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

Department of State

TELEGRAM

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00, SAH 02,

SA 01, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, E 15, DOT 10, RSR 01, 168 W

O P 051020Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2408
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12371

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF - AIRLIFT FROM FERNANDO PO

REF: LAGOS 12352

1. FMG IN AGREEING TO FLIGHT PLANS FOR ICRC AIRLIFT FERNANDO PO TO ULI-IHIALA CONDITIONED ITS AGREEMENT YESTERDAY ON THE RIGHT OF FMG TO FLY OVER ULI-IHIALA FREE OF ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE FROM REBELS IN ORDER OBSERVE OPERATION. SWISS AMB. REAL (IMPERATIVE PROTECT SOURCE) SAW CHIEF OF STAFF/AIR FORCE, ALAO, AND KOLO, HEAD EURO-WESTERN DIVISION AT 7:30 LAST NIGHT IN EFFORT PERSUADE FMG ABANDON OVERFLIGHT REQUIREMENT. SESSION WAS LONG AND AMICABLE.

2. ALAO SAID FMG CONCERNED WITH POSSIBLE DAYTIME USE ULI-IHIALA FOR ARMS SUPPLY. FMG HAD IN MIND PURE RECONNAISSANCE AND FELT THIS NECESSARY SINCE AGREEMENT DID NOT RPT NOT REQUIRE NEUTRALIZATION OF AIRSTRIP. THERE WAS NO QUESTION OF ATTACK BUT IF NON-ICRC PLANES LANDED AT FIELD, THEY WOULD PLAN REFER MATTER TO ICRC AND IF, INDEED, SOMETHING HAD GONE WRONG, E.G., ARMS-BEARING PLANES HAD

LANDED DURING THE DAY, THE DEAL WOULD BE OFF AS

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FAR AS FMG CONCERNED.

3. REAL POINTED OUT IMPOSSIBLE GET REBEL AGREEMENT TO REFRAIN FROM SHOOTING AT OVER-FLYING FMG MILITARY AIRCRAFT, A POINT WHICH ALAO UNDERSTOOD. ALAL THEN PROPOSED AS ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE THAT ICRC PUBLICLY TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ASSURING FMG THAT NO RPT NO QPANES OTHER THAN ICRC RELIEF PLANES WOULD LAND AT ULI-IHIALA IN DAYTIME DURING TEN-DAY PERIOD.
4. REAL THIS MORNING PASSED ABOVE ALTERNATIVE TO ICRC IN FERNANDO PO. LINDT, WHO STILL IN BIAFRA, HAS ISSUED ORDERS THERE WILL BE ON RPT NO ICRC FLIGHTS DURING DAYLIGHT HOURS TODAY. NIGHT FLIGHTS, ALTHOUGH RECOGNIZED RISKY BUSINESS, WILL GO AHEAD. REAL EXPECTS FLIGHT TONVLT WILL CARRY PROPOSAL PARA 3 ABOVE TO LINDT.

GP-3. MATHEWS

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Date	10/3/05



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TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 12373 051448Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, TO 13, SR 01, ORM 03, SCSE 00, SCA 02, NSA 02, CIAF 00, DODE 00,

GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, PS 25, USTA 12,

SAH 02, SA 01, AZD 28, RSR 01, 153 W.

R 051334Z SEPT 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2410
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS LAGOS 12373

SUBJECT: FMG PRESS RELEASE ON HAILE SELASSIE'S SUPPORT OF
GOWON-LINDT TEMPORARY AIRLIFT ACCORD.

1. FMG ISSUED PRESS RELEASE SEPT. 4 ON MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS FROM HIM TO GOWON ON DECISION TO PERMIT TEN DAY EMERGENCY AIRLIFT TO ULI-IBIALA FIELD. RELEASE STATED QUOTE EMPEROR EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL JOY THAT AFTER FIVE WEEKS NEGOTIATIONS IN ADDIS ABABA UNDER HIS CHAIRMANSHIP, THE MAGNANIMOUS GESTURE FROM GENERAL GOWON WILL NOW ENABLE RELIEF OPERATIONS IN REBEL HELD AREAS TO BE ORGANIZED ON A MASSIVE SCALE FROM THE HUMBLE BEGINNINGS IN THE PROPOSED EMERGENCY AIRLIFT UNQUOTE.

2. RELEASE GOES ON TO STATE THAT ADDIS ABABA DISCUSSIONS WILL NOW CONCENTRATE ON OPENING SEA AND LAND CORRIDORS AND THAT AT RECENT LINDT-GOWON MEETING, ICRC AGREED USE ITS INFLUENCE TO PERSUADE REBELS TO AGREE TO OPENING LAND CORRIDOR.

3. SAME RELEASE STATES QUOTE UNLESS THE REBELS RESPOND POSITIVELY TO MAGNANIMOUS GESTURE OF FMG IN AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY AIRLIFT FROM FERNANDO PO TO ULI AIRSTRIP FOR TEN DAYS, FURTHER PROGRESS CANNOT BE MADE AT ADDIS ABABA PEACE TALKS.

4. RELEASE ENDS WITH HISTORICAL FOOTNOTE THAT ICRC HAD

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APPEALED TO HIM TO PERSUADE GOWON NOT TO INTERFERE WITH ICRC PLANNED UNAUTHORIZED DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS TO ORILAGU AIRSTRIP, AND CONCLUDES WITH TEXT OF EMPERORS REPLY WHICH WARNED ICRC AGAINST ATTEMPTING VIOLATE NIGERIAN SOVEREIGNTY. FULL TEXT OF EMPERORS REPLY TO ICRC FOLLOWS.

5. BEGIN QUOTE. I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR MESSAGE OF SEPTEMBER 2, 1968 REQUESTING ME TO USE MY INFLUENCE WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA NOT TO INTERFERE WITH UNAPPROVED FLIGHTS BY THE RED CROSS FROM FERNANDO PO TO ORILAGU AIRSTRIP.

AS YOU ARE AWARE, I HAVE BEEN CONCERNED WITH MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR AN AGREEMENT ON AIR AND LAND CORRIDORS FOR RELIEF SUPPLIES TO THE NEEDY. IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT YOUR PROPOSALS TO OVERFLY FEDERAL TERRITORY HAVE BEEN MOTIVATED BY HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS, NEVERTHELESS SUCH ACTION UNDERTAKEN WITHOUT THE CONSENT AND IN THE FACE OF OBJECTION BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA, INFRINGES ON THE SOVEREIGNTY OF NIGERIA AND AS SUCH I CAN NEITHER RECOMMEND IT NOR INTERCEDE ON BEHALF OF SUCH ACTIONS. I ASSURE YOU THAT I WILL CONTINUE IN MY EFFORT TO GET AGREEMENT OF THE PARTIES FOR OPENING UP BOTH AIR AND LAND CORRIDORS. END QUOTE.

MATHEWS

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By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
 Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 833

PAGE 01 LAGOS 12396 051632Z

45
ACTION AF 15

INFO IO 13, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, EUR 15, CIAE 00, COM 08, E 15,
 INR 07, LAB 06, RSC 01, SIL 01, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,
 SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, NSA 02, AID 28, RSR 01, 184 W

R 051540Z SEP 68
 FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2421
 INFO USMISSION GENEVA
 USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12396

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF-ILO REPORT CRITICIZING ICRC

REF: LAGOS 12363

FRIENDLY, NYTIMES (PROTECT SOURCE), TOLD US TODAY THAT
 THERE HAD INDEED BEEN AN ILO REPORT DATED AUGUST 26
 PREPARED AFTER DISCUSSIONS WITH TWO ICRC OFFICIALS
 (NEITHER OF THESE ARE SENIOR OFFICIALS WE NORMALLY DEAL
 WITH), AND SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS FROM VOLUNTARY AGENCIES AND
 THE NRC. ACCORDING FRIENDLY, THE REPORT IS A DETAILED
 ACCOUNT OF AVAILABILITY OF TRANSPORT, QUANTITIES OF RELIEF
 SUPPLIES, ETC. WITH COMMENTS ON PROBLEMS POSED IN PURCHASING
 LOCAL FOOD STUFFS IN WAY WHICH DOES NOT PRODUCE SHORTAGES
 IN LOCAL MARKETS AND PRICE INCREASES. WHILE REPORT COMMENTS
 ON STRESSES AND STRAINS IN RELIEF OPERATION, IT IS BY NO
 RPT NO MEANS CRITICAL REPORT OUTLINED IN PRESS
 STORIES.

GP-3.

MATHEWS

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By	MN/ARA Date 10/3/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, AID 28, E 15, CIAE 00,
DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 07, SP 02, SS 25,
USIA 12, NSA 02, RSR 01, 169 W

R 051210Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2411
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
CINCSSTRIZ/CINCMCAFSA
DIA

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 12374

SUBJECT: RELIEF FLIGHTS

CANADIAN HICOM (PROTECT) HAS GIVEN US FOLLOWING TELEGRAM
DATED SEPTEMBER 5 ON ABOVE SUBJECT:

1. QTE EA PERMSEC BABA GANA TOLD ME TODAY FMG DID NOT NOT
ACCEPT AS FINAL REPORT FROM ADDIS REBELS HAD REJECTED
FORMULA FOR ICRC AIR DELIVERIES TO REBEL ZONE WORKED OUT
SEPT 3 BY LINDT AND GOWON. FMG HOPED WISER COUNSEL WOULD
PREVAIL AT REBEL HQ. IT WAS RELYING ON LINDT TO OBTAIN
AGREEMENT FROM REBELS. IF REFUSAL WERE FORTHCOMING FMG
WOULD COUNT ON ICRC TO MAKE CLEAR TO OUTSIDE WORLD (AS
IT HAD FAILED TO DO IN PAST) WHERE RESPONSIBILITY FOR
AIR DELIVERIES IMPASSE LAY.

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 12374 051516Z

2. QTE I REITERATED TO BABA GANA SUBSTANCE YOUR TEL MELO SEPT 2 WHICH HAD BEEN CONVEYED TO HIM BY LET SEPT 3.

3. QTE PERMSEC REMARKED ONE REASON FMG HAD NOT/NOT TAKEN MORE EFFECTIVE COUNTER CAMPAIGN ABROAD AGAINST REBEL PROPAGANDA WAS REALIZATION THIS MIGHT AFFECT ADVERSELY PROCESS OF EVENTUAL REINTEGRATION OF IBOS IN FEDERATION. IN THIS CONNECTION OFFER OF AMNESTY EXTENDED BY GOWON INCLUDED ALL REBELS INCLUDING OJUKWU.

4. QTE ON PROGRESS FMG MILITARY CAMPAIGN PERMSEC SAID IN HIS OPINION WORLD PRESS ON BASIS UNOFFICIAL REPORT WAS PRESENTING UNDULY OPTIMISTIC PICTURE. UNQTE

5. COMMENT: WE HAVE OUR DOUBTS ABOUT SINCERITY OF AMNESTY OFFER FOR OJUKWU.
MATHEWS

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Authority	VND 959/503
By	MN/ARA Date 10/5/05

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SSO 00, CCO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00,
GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25,
SR 01, AID 28, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, E 15, DOT 10, RSR 01, /165 W

O 051435Z SEP 68 ZFF-6
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8777
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
OSMISSION LONDON NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4690

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: ICRC FLIGHTS

1. ICRC (ROETHLIN, LINDT'S "CHIEF OF STAFF")
INFORMS MISSION COMMENCEMENT ICRC FLIGHTS TO ULI (ANNEBELLE)
AIRSTRIIP AS PER LINDT-GOWON AGREEMENT HAS BEEN POSTPONED AS
BIAFRANS HAVE NOT YET AGREED, LINDT WAS IN BIAFRA YESTERDAY (SEPT 4)
AND ROETHLIN ASSUMES FROM FERNANDO PO MESSAGE INDICATING
NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUING THAT HE IS STILL THERE.

2. ICRC COMMUNICATION
WITH FERNANDO PO BROKE DOWN FOUR P.M.
YESTERDAY (SEPT 4) RESUMED ONLY LATE THIS MORNING AND APPARENTLY
NOT YET AS CLEAR AS MIGHT BE WISHED (NEW EQUIPMENT SENT FERNANDO PO
YESTERDAY SHOULD HELP) HOWEVER ROETHLIN INTERPRETS INCOMING MESSAGES
AS SUGGESTING THAT POSSIBILITY THEIR AIRSTRIIP NEITHER ULI NOR
OBILAGO UTURU HAS BEEN RAISED BY BIAFRANS.

3. ACCORDING ROETHLIN THERE WERE FOUR ICRC FLIGHTS USING FOUR
AIRCRAFT THE NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 3 TO ULI AND REPEATED AND OBILAGO
BUT ROETHLIN THOUGHT TWO WERE TO OBILAGO FLIGHTS (DIVISION FLIGHTS
BETWEEN
AIRSTRIIPS NOT KNOWN) AND AGAIN NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 4 A FIFTH

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PLANE REPORTEDLY TURNED BACK NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 3 BECAUSE OF
BAD WEATHER ACCORDING ROETHLIN SIXTH PLANE, FROM NETHERLANDS RC,
EXPECTED FERNANDO PO TODAY.
TUBBY

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, SA 01, SAL 01, SAH 02,

AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 02, SR 01, ORM 03, PC 04, E 15, DOT 10, RSR 01, /187 W

R 041530Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2389
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA

DECLASSIFIED BY 3312

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12344

SUBJ: BIAFRAN-GABON AIRLIFT *pol 27-9 Biafra Nigeria*

REF: A. LIBREVILLE 1690; B. LIBREVILLE 1650

1. SECOND DC-3 NO. 9J-RIG, REPORTED REF A AS TWIN OF WHITE DC-3 439B, CARRIED ZAMBIAN REGISTRATION (9J) AND APPEARS INDICATE THAT ZAMBIAIS HAVE TURNED OVER TWO DC-3 AIRCRAFT FOR BIAFRAN USE. DC-3 NO. 439B FORMERLY REGISTERED ZAMBIA. 9J-RIF AS INDICATED REF B. APPARENTLY BIAFRANS HAVE NUMBERED THIS CRAFT WITH OWN "B", NON-ICAO APPROVED REGISTRY MARKS.

2. DC-4 NO. F-RBDO REPORTED REF A IS FRENCH REGISTERED AND MAY BE DC-4 AIRCRAFT WHICH GARRISON REPORTED FRENCH INTENDED OPERATE ON GABON-BIAFRA RUN IN AUGUST 17-18 EDITION "INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE" (LIBREVILLE 1634).

3. TR-LML IS GABON REGISTRATION NUMBER.

GP-3. MATHEWS

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INFO IO 13, EUR 15, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 02, SCS 04, RSR 01, SIL 01,
LAB 06, SAH 02, E 15, PC 04, CCO 00, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00,
DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 25, SAL 01, SA 01, /170 W

P R 041655Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2403
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12363

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF - ILO REPORT CRTICIZING ICRC

REF: LAGOS 12282; STATE 231842 PPB 17/9/68

1. DEPUTY DIRECTOR GUST OF ILO TOLD LABOR ATTACHE CONFIDENTIAL
COMPILATION OF PRESS REPORTS ON RELIEF PROBLEM HAD BEEN
PREPARED FOR ILO LAGOS DIRECTOR LUSCOMBE WHO EXPECTED BACK
FROM GENEVA SATURDAY. REPORT NOT REPEAT NOT INTENDED BE
CRITICAL. FRIENDLY, NYT REPORTER, ASSURED ECON. COUNSELLOR
AS HE DID HOCHE, ICRC (WHO RASIED QUESTION) THAT REPORT OF
SOME SORT HAD BEEN SHOWN TO SOME PEOPLE (UNIDENTIFIED) AND
FRIENDLY CONFIDENT THAT NICHOLAS LOYD WHO FIRST SURFACED
REPORT IN LAST SUNDAY'S LONDON TIMES DID IN FACT SEE IT.
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES CONFIRMED THAT "DUTCH ECONOMIST"
HAD BEEN SEEKING FACTS AND FIGURES TWO WEEKS OR SO AGO BUT
DOUBTED HE PULLED TOGETHER A REPORT OF THE NATURE DESCRIBED.

2. ECON. COUNSELOR DISCUSSED ALLEGED ILO REPORT WITH "DUTCH
ECONOMIST" IN LOCAL ILO OFFICE WHO ALLEGEDLY PREPARED REPORT.
HE CATEGORICALLY DENIED ANY REPORT PREPARED OR SENT AND
STATES, AS HE HAD SOME WEEKS AGO TO ECON COUNSELOR THAT ILO'S
INTEREST IS NOT REPEAT NOT IN RELIEF SITUATION AS SUCH BUT
THAT ILO MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP IN SOME WAY DURING RECONSTRUC-

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TION PERIOD. HE CLEARLY DISMAYED AT SKETCH ARTICLE AND SAYS
HE FAILS TO UNDERSTAND ALLEGED REPORT.

3. SEEMS CLEAR REPORT OF SOME KIND WAS PREPARED. IF WAS SUMMARY
OF LOCAL PRESS, IT COULD INDEED TAKE ON COLORATION OF LONDON
TIMES AND SKETCH ARTICLES. WE WILL CONTINUE ENDEAVOR GET
COPY OF PAPER IF INDEED ONE WAS PREPARED. THIS MAY BE POSSIBLE
ON LUSCOMBE'S RETURN.

MATHEWS

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SOC 3 RED CROSS
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INFO EUR 15, AF 09, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 02, SCS 04, RSR 01, SAH 02,

NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, /152 W

R 041133Z SEP 68
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8762
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USUN NEW YORK 2313

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4674

SUBJECT: LEAGUE OF RED CROSS SOCIETIES (LICROSS) AND NIGERIAN RELIEF.

1. RAMONE EATON, VICE-PRESIDENT FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AMERICAN RED CROSS, ATTENDING GENEVA MEETING EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF LICROSS, INFORMS MISSION THAT YESTERDAY JOSE BARROSO, CHAIRMAN LICROSS (AND OF MEXICAN RC) MET WITH SAMUEL GONARD, PRESIDENT ICRC, AND THAT THEY AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO LICROSS ENTERING INTO PARTICIPATION IN NIGERIAN RELIEF EFFORT NOW BEING COORDINATED BY ICRC.

2. IT IS EXPECTED THAT AFTER CONCLUSION LICROSS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SEPTEMBER 7, LICROSS SECRETARY-GENERAL HENRIK BEER WILL GO TO LAGOS TO SURVEY SITUATION AND DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS WAYS AND MEANS LICROSS PARTICIPATION. FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH ICRC WILL FOLLOW.

3. EATON, NO DOUBT REPRESENTING AMERICAN RED CROSS VIEWPOINT, IS HIGHLY PLEASED WITH LICROSS-ICRC AGREEMENT. BELIEVES IT MAY ESTABLISH PRECEDENT FOR EARLY COOPERATION TWO BODIES IN CONFLICT SITUATIONS, REPLACING PRESENT RATHER RIGID DIVISION OF LABOR UNDER WHICH ICRC IS THE OPERATING INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS ORGANIZATION IN CONFLICT SITUATIONS WITH LICROSS ENTERING PICTURE ONLY AFTER THE CONFLICT HAS BEEN RESOLVED. IN PRESENT INSTANCE, LICROSS PARTICIPATION BEFORE CONFLICT ENDS WILL PUT IT IN BETTER POSITION TO ASSUME MAJOR COORDINATING RESPONSIBILITY

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INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 02, SCS 04, RSR 01, CIAE 00,
DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 25, USIA 12, /152 W

P R 041355Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6911
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 5562

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

1. MOFA MINSTATE TESFAYE TOLD ME THIS MORNING
RELEASE OF LINDT-GOWON AGREEMENT PASSED TO IEG
THROUGH FMG DELEGATION ADDIS SHORTLY AFTER ITS
APPEARANCE ON NEWS TICKERS. HE SAID HIM DISTURBED
BY MANNER IN WHICH AGREEMENT PUBLICIZED WITHOUT
PRIOR CLEARANCE OR INFORMATION TO IEG OR TO BIAFRANS.
TESFAYE SAID HE ASSUMED GOWON SEIZED UPON OPPORT-
TUNITY TO JAB HIM FOR INTENSIVE PRESSURE IEG HAD
MAINTAINED ON FMG IN CONTEXT ADDIS TALKS AND AT SAME
TIME PUT BIAFRANS IN UNCOMFORTABLE POSITION VIS-A-VIS
WORLD OPINION.

2. TESFAYE SAID BASIC ELEMENTS LINDT-GOWON AGREEMENT HAD
BEEN KNOWN BY HIM 3-4 DAYS AGO AND HAD BEEN SUBJECT OF
HIM'S NEGOTIATIONS WITH BIAFRANS OVER WEEKEND. BIAFRAN
REJECTION OF LINDT-GOWON PATTERN OF AIR RELIEF FLIGHTS
THEREFORE ASSUMED, BUT CONFIRMED BY IEG IN QUERY TO
BIAFRAN DELEGATION ADDIS LAST NIGHT AFTER RELEASE LINDT-
GOWON AGREEMENT.

3. TESFAYE SAID HIM, DESPITE IRRITATION WITH HANDLING

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LINDT-GOWON RELEASE, INTENDED PERSEVERE TODAY AND TOMORROW IN EFFORT OBTAIN RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN TWO SIDES OVER AIRFIELDS. BARRING SUCH AGREEMENT, ON WHICH PROSPECTS NOT GOOD, TESFAYE FELT TOO MUCH RELIANCE SHOULD NOT BE PLACED ON LINDT-GOWON AGREEMENT AS END SOLUTION OF RELIEF PROBLEM UNLESS LINDT SOMEHOW SUCCESSFUL IN PERSUADING BIAFRANS IT IN THEIR INTEREST TO AGREE. TESFAYE ALSO WONDERED HOW CONTROLS COULD BE MAINTAINED AT AIRFIELD USED BOTH FOR MILITARY AND ICRC SUPPLIES. HE ASSUMED FMG PREPARED TO LIVE WITH SITUATION. IEG HAD CONCLUDED OAU COULD NOT GUARANTEE CONTROLS UNDER SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES.

4. LATEST REPORTS ARE BIAFRAN DELEGATION INSISTING AGREEMENT NOT ACCEPTABLE. TESFAYE THIS MORNING SAID THIS TO BE EXPECTED FOR 24-48 HOURS FOR TEMPERA TO COOL AND FACE TO BE SAVED. THEN HE THOUGHT BIAFRANS WOULD RETURN TO NEUTRALIZATION PROPOSAL.

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INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SSO 00, CCO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25,

SA 01, SAL 01, SAH 02, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, AID 28, PC 04, E 15,

DOT 10, RSR 01, /173 W

P 041100Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS:
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2382
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12331

SUBJECT: ICRC AND NIGERIA

REF: LAGOS 12327

DECLASSIFIED BY 1518

1. AS DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE REALIZED FROM REFTEL, CRISIS IN RELATIONS BETWEEN FMG AND ICRC WAS AVERTED GALT BE DETERMINED EFFORTS SWISS AMBASSADOR AND UK HICOM ON SEPTEMBER 2 AND 3. SITUATION WAS BROUGHT TO THIS CRITICAL STAGE BY ICRC'S INEPT AND HIGH-HANDED CONDUCT ITS RELATIONS WITH FMG. I BELIEVE USG, HMG AND IF POSSIBLE US AND UK RED CROSS SOCIETIES SHOULD CONCERT IN VIGOROUS REPRESENTATIONS TO ICRC ALONG FOLLOWING LINES.

2. ICRC SHOULD CONDUCT ITS RELATIONS WITH FMG BY FACE TO FACE DISCUSSIONS AND NEGOTIATIONS NOT BY PRESS RELEASES AND CABLED ULTIMATA. EFFECTIVE NEGOTIATIONS ON MATTERS IMPORTANT TO SECURITY INTERESTS FMG CAN ONLY BE UNDERTAKEN IN LAGOS WITH GOWON AND HIS CLOSE ADVISORS.

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3. ICRC SHOULD RECOGNIZE THAT FMG IS SOVEREIGN OVER ALL TERRITORY NIGERIA INCLUDING THAT UNDER REBEL CONTROL. FMG MUST BE CONSULTED IN ADVANCE AND GIVEN FULL INFORMATION ON ALL ICRC ACTIVITIES IN REBEL TERRITORY. (ICRC SHOULD TAKE WARNING FROM EMPEROR'S MESSAGE OF SEPTEMBER 2 DECLINING TO SUPPORT UNILATERAL ICRC ACTION ON AIRLIFT. ICRC'S ATTEMPTS TO PROTECT ITS REPUTATION IN WESTERN EUROPE (GENEVA 4631) SHOULD NOT LEAD IT TO DISREGARD SOVEREIGNTY OF NON-EUROPEAN NATIONS AND THUS DESTROY ITS REPUTATION OUTSIDE WESTERN EUROPE.)

4. ICRC SHOULD NOW PROCEED BEYOND LIP SERVICE TO LAND CORRIDOR PROPOSALS. JUST AS ICRC ASSEMBLED AIRCRAFT AND CREWS FOR AIRLIFT INTO REBEL TERRITORY, IT SHOULD IMMEDIATELY ASSEMBLE TRUCKS, DRIVERS AND MAINTENANCE CREWS TO MOUNT TRUCK CONVOYS INTO REBEL TERRITORY. ICRC SHOULD PUT AS MUCH PRESSURE ON OJUKWU TO ACCEPT TRUCK CONVOYS AS IT HAS ON FMG TO ACCEPT AIRLIFT.

GP-3. MATHEWS

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INFO AF 09, EUR 15, CCO 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSD 00,

USIE 00, SAH 02, SA 01, AID 28, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01, /133 W

P R 041600Z SEPT 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2392
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NY
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12348

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: UNICEF SHIPMENT

1. SCHURCH, DIRECTOR ICRC LAGOS, HAS JUST TOLD ECONOMIC COUNSELOR THAT GENDRON, UNICEF, HAS LEARNED TO HIS SURPRISE AND CONSTERNATION THAT SHIP BEARING FIVE THOUSAND TONS RELIEF SUPPLIES PUT INTO SAO TOME AND OFFLOADED TWO THOUSAND TONS BEFORE PROCEEDING LAGOS. THIS, IF TRUE, WE HOPE WILL NOT REPEAT NOT BECOME PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE. GENDRON, HAS BEEN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS THROUGH FOREIGN MINISTRY FOR STORAGE SPACE AT APAPA DOCKS FOR ANTICIPATED FIVE THOUSAND TONS AND WAS SAID TO BE MOST EMBARRASSED BY UNFORESEEN DEVELOPMENT. WE UNDERSTOOD UNICEF OPERATING UNDER AEGIS ICRC.

2. APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE RE OFFLOADING AT SAO TOME. UNABLE REACH GENDRON THIS AFTERNOON.

GP-3.

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NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, SCS 04, SCA 02, SR 01,

ORM 03, AID 28, E 15, RSR 01, 169 W

R 041623Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5859
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NY 1390

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 12352

SUBJECT: QUAKER VISIT TO BIAFRA

1. DAVID G. SCANLON AND DR. CHRISTAIN M. HANSEN, REPRESENTING AMERICAN FRIENDS' SERVICE COMMITTEE, HAVE PROVIDED US WITH FIRST-HAND ACCOUNT OF VISIT THEY MADE TO BIAFRA AUG 27-30. PURPOSE OF TRIP WAS TO ASSESS RELIEF NEEDS AND GAIN SOME IDEA EXISTING FACILITIES FOR HANDLING OF REFUGEES AND DISTRIBUTION OF RELIEF SUPPLIES. SCANLON AND HANSEN HAVE ALSO VISITED LAGOS AND FMG WAS EVIDENTLY AWARE OF THEIR INTENTION TO VISIT BIAFRA. THEY HOPE RETURN LAGOS FOR BRIEF FOLLOWUP VISIT WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS DEPENDING ON WHEN THEY RECEIVE VISA FROM NIGERIAN HIGH COMMISSION.

2. SCANLON AND HANSEN TRAVELLED TO BIAFRA VIA LISBON AND SAO TOME WHERE THEY FOUND CARITAS EFFECTIVELY COORDINATING RELIEF OPERATIONS. IT WAS THEIR IMPRESSION THAT SHORTAGE OF TRAINED CREWMEN WAS GREATER PROBLEM THAN LACK OF AIRCRAFT. THEY THOUGHT WARTON'S CHARTER AIRCRAFT WERE NO LONGER TRANSPORTING RELIEF SUPPLIES. WARTON'S PLANES LANDED IN SAO TOME FOR REFUELING BUT DID NOT OFFLOAD. SCANLON AND HANSEN TRAVELLED TO BIAFRA IN DC-7 PROVIDED BY WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES AND LANDED AT ULII-IHIALA WHICH THEY SAID HAD SUSTAINED SOME BOMB DAMAGE BUT WAS IN REASONABLY GOOD CONDITION.

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3. DURING THEIR THREE DAYS IN BIAFRA, SCANLON AND HANSEN VISITED APPROXIMATELY 10 HOSPITALS AND RELIEF CENTERS. THEY WERE ENORMOUSLY IMPRESSED BY THE DEDICATION AND EFFICIENCY WITH WHICH THE BIAFRAN RELIEF ORGANIZATION WAS DIRECTED. FOOD AND MEDICINE WAS IN EXTREMELY SHORT SUPPLY HOWEVER AND SUFFERING, PARTICULARLY AMONG WOMEN AND CHILDREN, WAS APPALLING. SCANLON AND HANSEN PAID HIGH TRIBUTE TO IRISH AND BIAFRAN PRIESTS FOR KEEPING RELIEF FACILITIES IN OPERATION UNDER EXCEPTIONALLY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES. THE TWO QUAKERS FEARED THAT NUMBER OF REFUGEES WAS REACHING ALMOST UNMANAGEABLE PROPORTIONS. THEY SAW LONG LINES OF REFUGEES MOVING FROM NORTH AND SOUTH TO GET AWAY FROM FIGHTING. BETWEEN UMUAHIA AND ABIRIBA, THEY ESTIMATED THERE WERE AS MANY AS 50 TO 60 THOUSAND PEOPLE ON THE MOVE. MAJORITY WERE SLEEPING OUTDOORS AND PICKING UP FOOD WHERE THEY COULD FIND IT.

4. HOSPITALS AND RELIEF CAMPS WERE BADLY OVERCROWDED. SCANLON AND HANSEN VISITED THE HOSPITAL AT EMEKUKU WHERE A BIAFRAN PEDIATRICIAN WAS CARING FOR 300 INFANTS AND CHILDREN WITH ACCOMMODATIONS FOR ABOUT 50. THERE WERE THREE YOUNGSTERS TO A BED AND MORE CHILDREN WERE ARRIVING AT HOSPITAL DAILY. AT RELIEF CAMP AT KNBORO, SIX MILES FROM ABIRIBA, 150 REFUGEES WERE REGISTERED. SCANLON AND HANSEN FOUND THAT ABOUT 3,000 WERE ACTUALLY IN CAMP. REGISTRATION COULD NOT KEEP UP WITH INFLUX OF NEW REFUGEES IN THE CAMPS.

5. QUAKERS SINGLED OUT QUEEN ELIZABETH HOSPITAL AT EMEKUKU AS BEST MEDICAL FACILITY IN BIAFRA. ALTHOUGH OVERCROWDING WAS PREVALENT THERE AS ELSEWHERE. EXCELLENT BIAFRAN AND EXPAT MEDICAL AND NURSING STAFF KEPT THINGS GOING. BOTH MILITARY AND CIVILIAN CASUALTIES WERE BEING TREATED AT HOSPITAL. MAIN PROBLEM WAS LACK OF SUPPLIES, ESPECIALLY PLASMA. BECAUSE OF EXTREMELY LOW BLOOD COUNT AMONG LOCAL POPULATION, QUALIFIED DONORS WERE SCARCE.

6. SPEAKING OF CONDITIONS IN UMUAHIA, SCANLON AND HANSEN SAID THAT DESPITE POPULATION SWOLLEN BY REFUGEES AND ACUTE SHORTAGES OF FOOD AND OTHER SUPPLIES, BASIC SERVICES WERE FUNCTIONING AND MORALE OF POPULATION SEEMED REASONABLY GOOD. MARKETS WERE OPEN BUT PRICES FOR AVAILABLE GOODS HAD GONE SKYHIGH. CUP OF BEANS, FOR EXAMPLE, COST 10 SHILLINGS. EVEN PEOPLE

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WHO HAD BEEN RELATIVELY WELLOFF BEFORE WAR WERE BEING HIT BY SHORTAGES. WHILE SCANLON AND HANSEN HAD FOUND NO EVIDENCE OF DISEASES REACHING EPIDEMIC PROPORTIONS, THEY SAID THAT TUBERCULOSIS RATE WAS UP SIGNIFICANTLY AND IF CONFLICT CONTINUED THROUGH WINTER, CHILDHOOD DISEASES LIKE MEASLES WOULD CAUSE MANY FATALITIES DUE TO UNDERSOURISHMENT.

7. COMMENT: WE WERE IMPRESSED BY SINCERITY AND OBJECTIVITY OF SCANLON AND HANSEN. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY QUIMBY WHO ALSO HAD LONG TALK WITH THEM HERE WAS SIMILARLY IMPRESSED AND BELIEVED AMBASSADOR MATHEWS, TIME PERMITTING, MIGHT FIND IT INTERESTING TO TALK WITH THEM DURING THEIR NEXT VISIT TO LAGOS. WE HAVE GIVEN THEM NAMES OF DCM OLSON AND POLITICAL COUNSELOR RAMSAUR AND ASSUMING THEIR VISA COMES THROUGH AS EXPECTED, THEY WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH EMBASSY LAGOS IN NEXT FEW DAYS. BRUCE

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INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00,

SAH 02, SA 01, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10,

P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, PC 04, ACDA 16, RSR 01, /157 W
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O P 041620Z SEP 68 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2395
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12352

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: AIRLIFT FROM FERNANDO PO

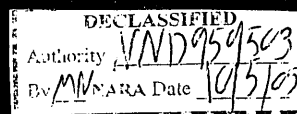
REF: LAGOS 12327

FMG AT 3:30 TODAY TRANSMITTED THROUGH SWISS AMBASSADOR
DETAILS ON FLIGHT PLANS TO ICRC IN FERNANDO PO COVERING
DAYLIGHT AIRLIFT TO ULI-IHIALA.

GP-3. MATHEWS

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SR 01, E 04, INR 07, RSR 01, /127 W

R 041630Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2401
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON

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AIDAC

TOAID 2901

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF - STATUS REPORT

JOINT USAID/EMBASSY

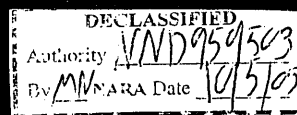
1. PRESS OPERATIONS: ICRC NOW HAS 2 PERSONS WORKING ON PRESS MATTERS IN JOINT RELIEF CENTER TOGETHER WITH MISS ADEBO (POSSIBLY DAUGHTER OF CHIEF ADEBO) WHO IN CHARGE PRESS INFORMATION FOR NRC. THEY PLAN WEEKLY RELEASE ON RELIEF OPERATIONS. FIRST REPORT YESTERDAY INCLUDES FOLLOWING INFORMATION NOT PREVIOUSLY REPORTED:

- A) 30 MORE VEHICLES IN PROCESS OF CLEARANCE AT PORT TO BE ADDED TO FLEET OF 50 IN USE (COMMENT: THESE VEHICLES BELIEVED TO BE DONATION PREVIOUSLY EXPECTED FROM UK AND GERMANY).
B) GERMAN TEAM OF 8 NOW IN LAGOS DUE TO PROCEED ITU AND NORWEGIAN TEAM OF 6 TO LEAVE FOR AGBOR SHORTLY.
C) SWEDISH TEAM OF 8 DOCTORS ARRIVED LAGOS TO BE SENT TO FIELD SHORTLY.

PRESS TEAM TO START WEEKLY STATUS REPORT OF ICRC

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 12359 041741Z

OPERATIONS FOR VOLAGS THURSDAY MEETINGS. ALSO
PLAN PRESS RELEASES OF LOCAL INTEREST TO COUNTRIES
CONTRIBUTING TO RELIEF EFFORTS.

DECON: 9/4/69. MATHEWS.

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By	MMNARA
Date	10/5/05



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Libreville 1697 9/1/68

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SR 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, NSA 02, ACDA 16, AID 28,
E 15, SCS 04, SCA 02, ORM 03, DOT 10, RSR 01, /195 W

R 041700Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1913
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
O RUFNCR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 600
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1697

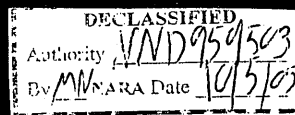
SUBJ BIAFRA

1. SUMMARY. ON BASIS WHAT WE SEE HERE, APPEARS FRENCH MAY NOW BE IN PROCESS DEVELOPING NEW INITIATIVE RE BIAFRA TAPPING APPARENTLY GROWING HUMANITARIAN CONCERN AND INVOLVING OAU, US AND STEPPED UP AIRLIFT WHICH THEY HOPE MIGHT ULTIMATELY FORCE NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT NIGERIAN CIVIL WAR PROVIDING FOR SOME KIND SEPARATE EXISTENCE FOR BIAFRA. HOUR WOULD APPEAR BE LATE AND FRENCH, HAVING CHOSEN BACK BIAFRA, PRESUMABLY FACED WITH NECESSITY DECIDE SOON WHETHER ACCEPT RISKS OF MUCH MORE OPEN AND SUBSTANTIAL MILITARY AID TO SAVE BIAFRA, GIVE UP EFFORT, OR SEEK NEW THIRD COURSE WHICH WILL STILL KEEP FRANCE MORE OR LESS SAFELY IN BACKGROUND WHILE POSSIBLY SAVING DAY IN THE END.

2. GABON ROLE IN BIAFRAN AFFAIR AS COVER FOR FRENCH EFFORT SUPPORT BIAFRA HAS GROWN CONTINUALLY AND IT WOULD APPEAR THIS ROLE TO EXPAND EVEN FURTHER. WE NOTE

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IN THIS CONNECTION SEPT 1-2 LE MONDE REPORT OF PRES BONGO ORTE INTERVIEW CALLING FOR BIAFRAN AIRLIFT BY FOUR AFRICAN COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE RECOGNIZED BIAFRA. ZAMBIA SEEMS ALREADY INVOLVED HAVING APPARENTLY PROVIDED TWO DC-3S (ONE WITH ZAMBIAN REGISTRATION IDENTIFICATION IN DAO LAGOS 0364 NOTAL AND NOW BEARING NUMBER 4398 AND ITS TWIN WHICH ARRIVED HERE SEPT 2 AS REPORTED. LIBREVILLE 1690) IT ALSO LOOKS AS THOUGH SECOND DC-4 OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN HAS ARRIVED FOR AIRLIFT (PARA 3 LIBREVILLE 1690). THUS LIBREVILLE-BIAFRA AIRLIFT CAPACITY ALMOST DOUBLED IN PAST FEW DAYS.

3. OF ADDITIONAL SPECIAL INTEREST IS EDITORIAL TODAY IN OFFICIAL NEWS BULLETIN GABON MATIN WHICH, AFTER PLEADING BIAFRAN CASE AND SETTING FORTH PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE AND MORALITY ALLEGEDLY BEHIND GABONESE RECOGNITION BIAFRA, CALLS FOR OAU AND UN ACTION. FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS: OTHER AFRICAN STATES HAVE NOT FOLLOWED EXAMPLE OF "CLEAR POSITION AND IRREFUTABLE LOGIC ON PLANE OF HIGHEST PRINCIPLE" ADOPTED BY GABON, IVORY COAST

TANZANIA, AND ZAMBIA. WE CAN ONLY DEPLORE FACT BIAFRA REMAINS ISOLATED BEFORE WELL-SUPPLIED ADVERSARY. "ONLY REASON BIAFRANS PRESENTLY REDUCED TO LAST EXTREMITY IS DECISIVE ARMS ASSISTANCE TO NIGERIA BY CERTAIN GREAT POWERS. DO NOT PRUDENCE AND SELF-INTEREST REQUIRE AVOIDANCE OF DISPLEASING GREAT POWERS OF WHOM ONE MAY FEAR DISAGREEABLE REACTIONS AND FROM WHOM ONE EXPECTS AID MEASURED GENERALLY BY ABILITY OF APPLICANT TO ALIGN ITSELF APPROPRIATELY? WE GABONESE, PERHAPS IN ERROR, ARE IDEALISTS AND EGOISM DOES NOT DOMINATE US. IF WE TAKE THE PART OF OUR BIAFRAN BROTHERS WITHOUT FEAR OR RETICENCE IT BECAUSE WE ATTACHED TO SUPERIOR IDEAL OF HUMAN LIBERTY AND DIGNITY. WE RECOGNIZE RIGHT OF EACH INDIVIDUAL, EACH PEOPLE TO CHOOSE OWN DESTINY. BIAFRANS CONSTITUTE DISTINCT PEOPLE. THEY HAVE ABSOLUTE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION. THEY A PEOPLE WHICH DOES NOT WISH DIE AND WE GABONESE UNDERSTAND THIS WILL AND WE WISH DEFEND IT WITH ALL OUR STRENGTH WHICH ALAS WEAK AND INADEQUATE". GABON AND OTHER FRANCOPHONES CHOSE INDIVIDUAL INDEPENDENCE RATHER THAN FEDERATION. THIS RIGHT SHOULD NOT BE DENIED OTHERS. SOME MAINTAIN NIGERIAN-

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BIAFRAN CONFLICT IS INTERNAL AFFAIR BUT "WE THINK IT IS INTERNATIONAL AFFAIR NOT ONLY BECAUSE GREAT POWER INTERESTS INVOLVED BUT BECAUSE IT AFFECTS MORALITY OF NATIONS. IT FOR OAU AND UN TO INTERVENE IN SPIRIT OF CHARTERS GOVERNING THEM. EVERY CONFLICT SHOULD BE RESOLVED BY NEGOTIATION, BY EFFORTS AT CONCILIATION, IN DIALOGUE. PEACE, TOLERANCE, DIALOGUE, GUIDING WORDS WHICH OUR PRESIDENT HAS MADE CARDINAL GABONESE VIRTUES, FIND HERE THEIR VALUE AND ONLY THEY CAN SERVE TO RESOLVE THE AGONIZING PROBLEM OF A PEOPLE WHOM IT WOULD BE SHAMEFUL AND DEGRADING FOR HUMANITY TO ALLOW TO DISAPPEAR FOREVER".

4. GIVEN NATURE GABONESE-FRENCH RELATIONSHIP, IT MOST LIKELY THAT RUTH BONGO STATEMENT TO ORTF AND GABON MATIN EDITORIAL FRENCH INSPIRED. MOREOVER, IT QUITE POSSIBLE, AS REPORTED LAGOS 12258, THREE GABONESE MINISTERS WERE MEETING FEW DAYS AGO WITH FRENCH IN PARIS ON BIAFRAN QUESTION. PRESUME THE THREE WERE AYOUNE, KASSA-MAPSI AND BOUMAH, WHO WERE IN PARIS EN ROUTE ALGIERS OAU MEETING (LIBREVILLE 1667).

5. ALL THIS SUGGESTS TO US FRENCH SEEKING DEVELOP MORE INTERNATIONAL AND ESPECIALLY AFRICAN PRESSURE ON BEHALF BIAFRA WHILE AUGMENTING AIRLIFT TO KEEP BIAFRANS AFLOAT IN HOPE PROSPECTS FOR NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT WILL EVENTUALLY IMPROVE. WITH GABONESE AND PERHAPS OTHER AFRICANS OUT IN FRONT, NEXT STEP MAY BE, AS ANTICIPATED BY NIGERIAN PERMSEC EXTAFF (LAGOS 12258), DETERMINED EFFORT ON BIAFRAN BEHALF IN OAU WITH FOLLOW UP SHORTLY THEREAFTER AT UNGA. GP 3 BANE

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PAGE 01 LIBREV 01698 051009Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, AID 28, E 15, SAH 02, SCS 04,
SCA 02, DOT 10, ACDA 16, SR 01, ORM 03, MC 01, RSR 01, 198 W

R 041650Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1914
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS 494
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1698

REF LIBREVILLE 1690

1. ALL THREE DC-3 S APPARENTLY MADE RUN TO BIAFRA
LAST NIGHT SEPT 3-4. DC-4 F-RBDQ TOOK OFF EARLY
EVENING BUT RETURNED WITHIN HALF HOUR. ALL FIVE AIRLIFT
PLANES AT AIRPORT THIS MORNING.

2. HAVE NEW INDICATION ARMS BEING CARRIED TO BIAFRA,
THOUGH WE STILL WITHOUT CONCRETE CONFIRMATION.
WESTERN GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY REP TOLD EMBOFF
IN PORT GENTIL YESTERDAY THAT TRANSGABON PILOT HAD SAID
THAT WHEN AIRLIFT PLANES BEING LOADED AT GABONESE
AIRFORCE AREA AT LIBREVILLE AIRPORT "THEY NOT SIMPLY
TAKING ON MILK". IN THIS CONNECTION OFFICIAL
NEWS BULLETIN GABON MATIN TODAY REPORTS FRENCH EMB
BERNE ISSUED FOLLOWING STATEMENT DENYING FRENCH SENDING
ARMS TO BIAFRA: "A NEWS AGENCY HAS REPORTED RUMORS
FROM LONDON THAT BIAFRAN REP HAD SIGNED IN
PARIS CONTRACT CONCERNING PROVISION OF LIGHT ARMS.
FRENCH EMB BERNE AUTHORIZED TO DENY THIS REPORT.
EMBARGO DECREED BY GOF ON ALL ARMS SHIPMENTS TO EITHER
OF TWO SIDES IN CONFLICT CONSISTENTLY

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Schmitt 1698
9/4/68

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RESPECTED AND REMAINS IN FORCE. FRENCH AIR TO BIAFRAN
POPULATION CARRIED ORD SOLELY ON HUMANITARIAN PLANE".
COMMENT: AS VIEWED FROM LIBREVILLE,
FOREGOING TAKES ON SOMEWHAT HOLLOW RING. WE ASSUME
FRENCH WILL USE LINE THAT ANY ARMS MOVING FROM LIBREVILLE
TO BIAFRA ARE "GABONESE ARMS" AND THAT RONGO WILL
COVER FOR FRENCH ON THIS ONE AS WELL. NEEDLESS SAY
GABON HAS NO STOCKS OF ARMS OR MILITARY EQUIPMENT OF ANY
CONSEQUENCE TO SUPPLY BIAFRA AND FUEL CURRENT AIR LIFT.

3. WESTERN GEOPHYSICAL REP ALSO INFORMED BY TRANSGABON
PILOT THAT AIRLIFT PILOTS RECEIVE 8000 FRENCH FRANCS FOR
EACH FLIGHT PAYABLE IN CASH IMMEDIATELY UPON RETURN
LIBREVILLE. RANE

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ACTION IO 15

INFO AF 09, EUR 15, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, SA 01, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03,
SCS 04, SCA 02, RSR 01, // 151 N

R 041710Z SEP 68
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3029
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 06375

NIGERIA

1. AMB BORCH (DENMARK) CALLED ON BALL SEPTEMBER 3 TO EXCHANGE VIEWS
RE SITUATION IN NIGERIA AFTER INFORMING PEDERSEN EARLIER
IN DAY DANISH GOVT WAS STILL CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY
OF RESORTING TO SC RE NIGERIA. LATER IN AFTERNOON, HOWEVER,
IN LIGHT OF GOWON'S AGREEMENT TO 10-DAY ICRC AIRLIFT,
REPORTED LAGOS 22299, WHICH HE HAD ALSO RECEIVED, BORCH
WAS LESS ANXIOUS ABOUT AN SC MTG, AND THOUGHT IT SHOULD
REMAIN IN BACKGROUND FOR TIME BEING. BORCH DID NOT DIS-
COUNT POSSIBILITY OF GA CONSIDERATION, BUT THOUGHT THIS
ALSO SHOULD REMAIN IN BACKGROUND FOR MOMENT.

① 2. BORCH THEN REVIEWED ACTIONS TAKEN BY NORDIC COUNTRIES,
CITING COMMON APPEAL ADDRESSED TO SYG AUG 14 AND LETTER
SENT BY NORWEGIAN AND DANISH PRIMINS TO GOWON THIS WEEKEND
URGING HIS SUPPORT FOR HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS OF ICRC. BORCH
STRESSED THERE WAS STRONG OPINIONS IN NORDIC COUNTRIES
ABOUT HUMANITARIAN ASPECTS OF MATTER AND SAID TIME SOMETIMES
COMES WHEN DETAILS AND PARAGRAPHS OF LEGALISMS HAD TO GIVE
WAY TO NECESSITY OF ALLEVIATING HUMAN CONDITIONS.

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3. BALL STATED SENTIMENT IN US ON HUMANITARIAN RELIEF WAS ALSO VERY STRONG BUT THAT OUR ASSESSMENT AT THIS POINT STILL WAS THAT AFRICANS AND ICRC WOULD HAVE MORE INFLUENCE TOWARD CONSTRUCTIVE DEVELOPMENTS THAN SC. GIVEN PRESENT AF ATTITUDE, BALL SAID IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO GET ANYTHING OF CONSEQUENCE OUT OF SC. BALL SUGGESTED ALSO ETHIOPIANS MIGHT BE DISTURBED IF ISSUE TAKEN TO SC WITHOUT THEIR CONSENT BECAUSE OF EMPEROR'S CONTINUING AND ACTIVE INVOLVEMENT IN SEEKING SOLUTION.

4. BORCH THOUGHT GOWON STATEMENT MIGHT FORESTALL ADDITIONAL PRESSURE FOR SC AND AGREED WITH GENERAL VIEWS EXPRESSED BY BALL, BUT THOUGHT SCANDINAVIANS WOULD WANT TO KEEP SC AVENUE OPEN FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE USE.

GP-4. BALL

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CONFIDENTIAL 069

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ACTION IO 15

INFO AF 09, EUR 15, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, NSA 02, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SA 01,
SAH 02, ARA 08, EA 10, NEA 13, SCS 04, SCA 02, RSR 01, /184 W

R 042148Z SEP 68
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3031
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AUSMISSION GENEVA 2645
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIC

CONFIDENTIAL USUN 6377

SUBJECT: NIGERIA

REF: USUN 6375

1. ASTROM (SWEDEN) GAVE PEDERSEN COPY FOL MSG NORDIC FONMINS TO SYG DELIVERED TODAY. ASTROM SAID FONMINS WERE STILL HIGHLY CONCERNED ABOUT BIAFRAN SITUATION. SAID NORWEGIAN FONMIN HAD EVEN SUGGESTED NORDIC POSITION GO BEYOND HUMANITARIAN MATTER TO SUPPORT FOR SELF-DETERMINATION. ASTROM NOTED LAST SENTENCE WAS REFLECTION CONSIDERATION GIVEN TO CALLING SC SESSION. HE INDICATED HE HAD BEEN BRIEFED BY BORCH (DENMARK) ABOUT CONVERSATION WITH BALL YESTERDAY (USUN 6375).

2. MSG TO SYG:

(QUOTE) THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF DENMARK, FINLAND, ICELAND, NORWAY AND SWEDEN ASSEMBLED FOR THEIR REGULAR NORDIC

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PAGE 02 USUN N 06377 050049Z

FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN STOCKHOLM ON 3RD AND 4TH SEPTEMBER, AGREED ON THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO SECRETARY GENERAL U THANT:

1) ON THE BASIS OF THE JOINT NORDIC GOVERNMENT STATEMENT OF 14TH AUGUST, 1968, AND OTHER NORDIC INITIATIVES AND APPEALS, THE NORDIC FOREIGN MINISTERS DISCUSSED EXTENSIVELY THE POSSIBILITIES OF ALLEVIATING THE SUFFERINGS OF THE NIGERIAN POPULATION, WHICH IS STILL CAUSING GREAT ANXIETY. IN THIS CONNECTION THEY EXPRESSED THEIR APPRECIATION OF THE EFFORTS WHICH THE SECRETARY GENERAL AND HIS REPRESENTATIVE HAVE MADE TO GIVE AID TO THE POPULATION.

2) ACCORDING TO INFORMATION JUST RECEIVED THERE HAS BEEN A CERTAIN IMPROVEMENT IN THE SITUATION. AS DISTRESS AND STARVATION IS STILL CONTINUING ON A VERY SERIOUS SCALE, THE MINISTERS ARE OF THE OPINION THAT IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY THAT ADDITIONAL MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

3) IN VIEW OF THE CENTRAL POSITION WHICH THE SECRETARY GENERAL HOLDS IN THE HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE WORK, THE MINISTERS REQUEST THAT HE WOULD INDICATE WHAT MEASURES, IN HIS OPINION, CAN BE CONSIDERED IN THE PRESENT SITUATION. THE MINISTERS PLEDGE THE CONTINUED PARTICIPATION OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS IN THE ASSISTANCE WORK AND ASSURE THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THEIR FULL SUPPORT OF SUCH INITIATIVES AS HE MAY SUGGEST.

4) IF THE ARRANGEMENTS MADE, AND THE APPEALS ADDRESSED TO THE PARTIES FAIL TO RESULT IN A SPEEDY, SUBSTANTIAL IMPROVEMENT OF THE SITUATION, THE FIVE NORDIC MINISTERS WILL CONSIDER FURTHER STEPS, ALSO WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UN ORGANISATIONS. (UNQUOTE)

GP-4.

BALL

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ACTION SS 70

INFO CIAE 00,070 W

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FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2350

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12273

LIMDIS

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: ADDIS 5526 *rel 27-9 Bureau Nigeria*

COPY REFTEL PASSED ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR 0700 GMT
SEPTEMBER 3.
MATHEWS

*LAGOS 12273
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Summary
Task Force

AF5 *X 5*
ARA 9
EA 11
EUR 9
NEA 7

ACDA 5
AID/EXSEC 3
AA/AFR2
AA/VN 2
AA/EA 3
AA/NESA 2

Functional

Principals

ES2 *4*
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OTHER AGENCIES

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ACTION AFI 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DO 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 25, USIA 12, SA 01, SAL 01, SAM 02, SR 01,
ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, AID 28, RSR 01, / 158 W

R 031540Z SEP 68.
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1937
INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN UNN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI UNN

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SUBJECT: NORWEGIANS ASK NIGERIANS ALLOW MERCY FLIGHTS TO BIAFRA
REF: OSLO 6058, 6323, 6328

- 2
1. NORWEGIAN PRIMIN BORTEN SEPT 2 ADDRESSED PERSONAL APPEAL BY LETTER TO NIGERIAN LEADER GOWON INSISTING FNG NOT RPT NOT INTERFERE WITH FLIGHTS OF RELIEF SUPPLIES TO BIAFRA. REFERRING TO EARLIER NORDIC APPROACHES (SEE REFTELS) WHICH ALSO BASED ON "PURELY HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS", BORTEN SAID ICRC HAD INFORMED GOWON IT INTENDED INCREASE NUMBER FLIGHTS "UNDER ITS EXCLUSIVE CONTROL", AND HE PERSONALLY CONVINCED PLANES WOULD CARRY NO RPT NO MILITARY SUPPLIES. HE WARNED THAT ANY NIGERIAN EFFORTS HINDER FLIGHTS "WOULD AROUSE STRONG REACTION IN OFFICIAL NORWEGIAN OPINION."
 2. FONMIN LYG RECEIVED PETITION SAME DAY FROM IMPRESSIVE CITIZENS GROUP URGING HIM TO A) LEAD OR SEND NORWEGIAN DELEGATION TO LAGOS TO ATTEMPT PRESSURE FNG AUTHORITIES PERMIT RELIEF SUPPLIES INTO BIAFRA AND B) TO ENCOURAGE AS MANY OTHER STATES, ESPECIALLY NORDIC COUNTRIES, TO DO SAME.

CONTINUED BY 04

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By MWA Date 10/5/05



POL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
XR POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
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PAGE 01 OSLO 06326 031001Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 02, SR 01, ORM 03, NSA 02, CIAE 00,
DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25,
USIA 12, RSR 01, /154 W

R 021440Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY OSLO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1932
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
UBMISSION GENEVA

CONFIDENTIAL OSLO 6326

SUBJECT: BIAFRA AID

FOLLOWING CONVERSATION OTHER MATTERS SEPT 1, UNDERSECY
JACOBSEN SAID NORDIC PLANES PUT AT DISPOSITION INTERNATIONAL
RED CROSS SCHEDULED FLY INTO BIAFRA FROM FERNANDO PO SEPT 3,
WHICH WOULD PUT THEM SQUARE IN MIDDLE OF ANNOUNCED NIGERIAN
FINAL OFFENSIVE. VIEW BELLIGERENT ATTITUDE LAGOS TOWARD THESE
FLIGHTS AND PRESENCE NORWEGIAN CREW, JACOBSEN SAID GON WAS
DEEPLY CONCERNED.

GP-3. TIBBETTS

OSLO 6326
9-2-68

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSD 00, USIF 00,
CCO 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25,
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MC 01, ACDA 16, RSR 01, /189 W

O P 021652Z SEP 68 ZFF-1
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2347
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T LAGOS 12270

SUBJ: ICRC FLIGHTS TO BIAFRA

REF: STATE 231398

1. AS ARIKPO LEFT FOR ALGIERS IMMEDIATELY AFTER MEETING WITH GOWON AND UKHICOM THIS MORNING, I SOUGHT APPOINTMENT WITH PERMSEC EXTAFF BABA GANA AND HAVE JUST LEFT HIM.
2. I CONVEYED USG VIEWS IN REFTEL EMPHASIZING USG SUPPORT OF LAND CORRIDOR AND DAMAGE TO FMG IF IT ATTACKED ICRC AIRCRAFT.
3. BABA GANA WAS COURTEOUS AND REASONABLE BUT BITTER. HE MADE STANDARD COMPLAINT THAT PRESSURE ALWAYS PUT ON FMG. HE STATED FMG UNABLE UNDERSTAND WHY LINDT HAS REJECTED ITS REQUEST TO COME TO LAGOS FOR DISCUSSIONS BEFORE GOING TO FERNANDO PO AS LINDT SUPPOSED TO BE ICRC REP TO FMG AS WELL AS REBELS. HE SAID FMG HAD JUST LEARNED FROM SWISS AMBASSADOR THAT LINDT HAD NOW AGREED COME TO LAGOS FROM FERNANDO PO AND WOULD ARRIVE LATE TODAY.
4. BABA GANA POINTED OUT FMG HAD BEEN PLACED IN VERY DIFFICULT

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By MVA/ARA Date 10/5/05



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POSITION BY UNILATERAL ACTION ICRC AND FOUR NORDIC GOVERNMENTS. FMG WAS NEVERTHELESS STILL SEEKING AGREEMENT ON RELIEF PROCEDURES ADDIS AND WOULD TRY TO REACH UNDERSTANDING WITH LINDT. HE INDICATED FMG WOULD PRESS LINDT FOR PROMPT OPENING LAND CORRIDOR BY ICRC AND FOR SAFEGUARDS TO ENSURE REBELS COULD NOT USE ICRC AIRLIFT AS COVER FOR MUNITIONS FLIGHTS. FMG EXPECTS REBELS TO ATTEMPT INFILTRATE PLANES CARRYING ARMS FROM SAG TOME AND LIBREVILLE BY PAINTING THEM SAME AS ICRC PLANES AND USING ICRC IDENTIFICATION SIGNALS.

5. BABA GANA MADE NO THREATS THAT ICRC AIRCRAFT WOULD BE ATTACKED. TO CONTRARY, HE STRESSED THAT MAJOR PROBLEM IN AIRLIFT WAS THAT FMG COULD NOT GUARANTY SAFETY OF PLANES. THESE WOULD HAVE TO FLY OVER BATTLE ZONES AND MIGHT BE FIRED ON BY REBEL AS WELL AS FMG FORCES.

6. BABA GANA SEVERAL TIMES SAID FMG CONVINCED ICRC WOULD NOT TREAT GOVERNMENT OF QUOTE DEVELOPED COUNTRY UNQUOTE AS IT TREATING FMG. ICRC APPARENTLY CONSIDERED IT DID NOT NEED FMG CONSENT FOR FLIGHTS OVER ITS TERRITORY. THERE SEEMED, HE COMMENTED, TO BE TWO INTERNATIONAL LAWS -- ONE FOR DEVELOPED AND ANOTHER FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. I DISPUTED THIS BUT BABA GANA WAS OBVIOUSLY NOT MOVED BY MY REMARKS.

MATHEWS

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
TR POL 15-1 US/JOHNSON

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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SI
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, TO 13, CCO 00, SSO 00, NSC 00, GPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 25,
RSC 01, AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 02, CPR 02, SR 01, ORM 03, P 04, USIA 12,
INR 07, RSR 01, 149 W

O R 021200Z SEPT 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2345
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12268

SUBJECT: GOWON REPLY TO MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT

REF: STATE 221355 *Pol 27-9 Biafra Nigeria*
TR PR 15-1 US/Johnson
TR PR 15-1 Nigeria

1. COPY OF TEXT GOWON'S REPLY TO THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE OF
AUGUST 15 DELIVERED TO AMB YESTERDAY EVENING. WE PRESUME
ORIGINAL SENT BY POUCH FMG AMB. WASH FOR DELIVERY. WE SUSPECT SOME
AMERICAN, POSSIBLY MCCORMACK WHO HAS DONE PRE WORK FOR FMG,
HAD HAND IN DRAFTING EG. PHRASE "TAKEN FOR A RIDE". NOT USED BY
NIGERIANS.

2. COMPLETE TEXT FOLLOWS: QUOTE
31ST AUGUST, 1968
"H.E. MR LYNDON B. JOHNSON,
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON.

MY DEAR PRESIDENT:

(2)

"I AM VERY GRATE FOR YOUR MESSAGE WHICH CAME TO ME BY
HAND OF YOUR AMBASSADOR, MR. ELBERT G. MATHEWS, ON 15TH
AUGUST. I HAD DELIBERATELY DELAYED REPLYING THE HOPE OF
BEING ABLE TO INFORM YOU THAT, BY AGREEMENT WITH THE REBELS

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Authority VND 959/503
By M/NARA Date 10/3/05



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ON LAND AND AIR CORRIDORS, THE LONG-OUTSTANDING PROBLEM OF RELIEF SUPPLIES FOR REBEL-HELD AREA WAS ON THE WAY TO BEING SOLVED. UNFORTUNATELY, WEEKS OF NEGOTIATIONS IN ADDIS ABABA HAVE ELICITED FROM THE REBEL DELEGATION NOTHING MORE THAN AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LAND AND AIR CORRIDORS.

AS YOU KNOW, THE TRAGEDY ON BOTH SIDES OF THE FIGHTING LINES HAS CAUSED ME NO END OF ANGUISH. I HAVE HAD TO WATCH HELPLESSLY WHILE THE REBEL LEADERS HAVE CALLOUSLY USED THE LIVES OF THE CIVILIANS IN THEIR TERRITORY TO VILIFY MY GOVERNMENT AND THUS OBTAIN SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT ABROAD. I HAVE WATCHED, WITH NO LITTLE FRUSTRATION, WORLD OPINION BEING TAKEN FOR A RIDE BY THE REBELS WHO HAVE BRAZENLY REFUSED TO ALLOW RELIEF SUPPLIES TO GET TO THE THOUSANDS OF SUFFERING CIVILIANS. I SPEAK WITH GREAT FEELING ON THIS SUBJECT, MR. PRESIDENT, BECAUSE FOR EVERY DAY THE REBELS ARE ENABLED BY "WORLD OPINION" TO CONTINUE THEIR INTRANSIGENCE SOME TENS, POSSIBLY HUNDREDS, OF MY FELLOW COUNTRY-MEN ARE UNNECESSARILY LOSING THEIR LIVES, IF ONLY THIS OPINION BROUGHT PRESSURE TO BEAR ON THE REBELS TO HAVE COMPASSION AND GIVE UP THEIR FUTILE ATTEMPT AT SECESSION, THE SUFFERINGS WOULD END IMMEDIATELY.

"MY DELEGATION WENT TO ADDIS ABABA WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO NEGOTIATE A PACKAGE DEAL INVOLVING AN AIR CORRIDOR (WHICH THE REBELS INSIST UPON) AND A LAND CORRIDOR (WHICH I OFFERED IN MAY). MY INSISTENCE ON A LAND CORRIDOR IS NOT BASED ON POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS. ALL THE RELIEF EXPERTS WHO HAVE STUDIED THE PROBLEMS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE FIGHTING LINES ARE UNANIMOUS IN THE CONCLUSION THAT THE ONLY PRACTICAL WAY FOR RELIEF SUPPLIES OF THE MAGNITUDE REQUIRED TO REACH THE POPULATION IN REBEL-HELD AREA IS FOR SUPPLIES TO BE SENT BY LAND.

"AS A MATTER OF FACT, THE THINGS MOST NEEDED ARE LOCAL FOODSTUFFS LIKE YAM, GARI, BEANS AND RICE WHICH ARE BULKY ITEMS AND WHICH ARE BETTER TRANSPORTED BY LAND. IT IS VERY SAD TO NOTE ALSO THAT THE REBELS HAVE REJECTED THE OFFER OF MY DELEGATION AT ADDIS ABABA TO CONTRIBUTE LARGE QUANTITIES OF THESE LOCAL FOODSTUFFS TO THE ICRC FOR DISTRIBUTION IN THE REBEL HELD AREAS.

"I AM CONVINCED, THEREFORE, THAT THE REASON FOR THEIR ATTITUDE IS THAT ONCE RELIEF SUPPLIES CAN PASS THROUGH FEDERAL

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Authority VND 954503
By MNA Date 10/5/05



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TERRITORY AND BE SEEN TO BE SAFE AND UNCONTAMINATED, THE STING WILL BE TAKEN OUT OF MR. OJUKWU'S REBELLION IN KAMPALE. THE RESULT WILL BE THAT MANY MORE WOULD DESERT MR. OJUKWU AND HIS REBELLION MIGHT THEREFORE COLLAPSE WITHOUT THE NEED FOR FURTHER MILITARY OPERATIONS. ALTHOUGH DISAPPOINTED, THEREFORE, I AM NOT SURPRISED THAT MR. OJUKWU IS USING EVERY POSSIBLE RUSE TO AVOID AGREEMENT ON A LAND CORRIDOR WHILE INSISTING ON AIR CORRIDOR AS A PROPAGANDA EXERCISE TO WIN INTERNATIONAL SYMPATHY AND RECOGNITION.

"THE AIR CORRIDOR DEMANDED BY THE REBEL LEADERSHIP IS DESIGNED ALSO TO PROVIDE THEIR SIDE WITH MAXIMUM MILITARY ADVANTAGE AS IT WOULD LIE IN THE PATH OF THE IMMEDIATE ADVANCE OF MY TROOPS AND IS NEARER ON THEIR DIRECT MUNITIONS SUPPLY ROUTE FROM LIBERVILLE IN GABON. IF THE SECESSIONISTS ARE REALLY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SUFFERINGS OF THE IBOS THEY SHOULD HAND OVER THEIR MAIN AIRFIELD IN THE ULI/ITHILA AREA TO THE ICRC FOR HANDLING RELIEF SUPPLIES. I AM PREPARED TO ACCEPT THIS BECAUSE OF OUR CONCERN FOR THE SUFFERING OF THESE INNOCENT PEOPLE. I AM HOPEFUL THAT PRESSURES FROM THE WORLD LEADERS LIKE YOUR EXCELLENCY MAY PERSUADE OJUKWU TO CHANGE HIS MIND.

"AS REGARDS THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ICRC IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT IN THEIR ANXIETY TO SHOW THE WORLD THAT THEY ARE DOING SOMETHING TO RELIEVE DISTRESS IN THE REBEL TERRITORY, THE ICRC HAVE INFRINGED THEIR OWN CHARTER, BROKEN OUR LAWS AND EMBARRASSED MY GOVERNMENT. THUS, WHEN THE REBELS WERE DEMANDING A CEASEFIRE AND THE LIFTING OF THE BLOCKADE AS A PRECONDITION FOR COMMENCING THE PEACE TALK IN KAMPALA, THE ICRC WAS CONVAUSSING AMONG SOME GOVERNMENTS THE NEED FOR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO LIFT ITS BLOCKADE. THEY ALSO SENT A DELEGATE TO KAMPALA FOR THIS PURPOSE.

"YOUR EMBASSY HERE WAS KIND ENOUGH TO GIVE US ADVANCE INFORMATION ON THIS "HUMANITARIAN" MANOEUVRE. RECENTLY, THE ICRC AGAIN EMBARRASSED MY GOVERNMENT BY SUDDENLY ANNOUNCING THAT THEY HAD OBTAINED "THE NEUTRALISATION OF AN AIRSTRIP IN A SIGNED AGREEMENT WITH THE 'BIAFRAN' AUTHORITIES" WITHOUT OBTAINING OUR AGREEMENT.

"MR. PRESIDENT, YOU WILL AGREE THAT NOBODY CAN BE MORE

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CONCERNED THAN WE NIGERIANS ABOUT THE SUFFERING OF OUR FELLOW COUNTRYMEN IN ANY PART OF THIS COUNTRY. WE RECOGNIZE THE GOOD WORK OF GENUINE HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS. OUR EXPERIENCE HERE HAS SHOWN, HOWEVER, THAT THE HUMANITARIAN ARDOUR SEEMS TO BE RATHER SELECTIVE AND TO BE, MORE AROUSED WHEN THERE ARE PROSPECTS OF PUBLICITY. FOR SOME REASON, THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ICRC IN THE LIBERATED AREAS WHERE THEY CAN OPERATE FREELY DO NOT MATCH THEIR MUCH PUBLICISED CONCERN FOR THE SUFFERINGS OF THE PEOPLE BEHIND THE REBEL LINES.

"MAY I, MR. PRESIDENT, EXPRESS MY PERSONAL APPRECIATION FOR THE COOPERATION MY GOVERNMENT HAS ALWAYS RECEIVED FROM YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT.

"PLEASE ACCEPT, MR. PRESIDENT, THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION AND ESTEEM.

YOURS MOST SINCERELY,
GOWON (SIGNED)

(MAJORE-GENERAL YAKUBU GOWON)
HEAD OF THE FEDERAL MILITARY GOVERNMENT
COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES,
OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF NIGERIA."

MATHEWS

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Date	10/5/03



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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INF 07,

L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, SAH 22, SCS 24, SCA 02,

SR 01, OPM 03, RSR 01, 156 W

R 031942Z SEP 62
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2377
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION GENEVA

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CORRECTED COPY (1st LINE OF TEXT)

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF TELEGRAM FROM US EMBASSY/STOCKHOLM
DATED SEPT. 2 HANDED TO US TODAY BY UNHCR. BEGIN TEXT
I SPOKE TO GIRON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS,
AS INSTRUCTED THIS MORNING. HE SAID THAT THE FOREIGN
MINISTRY HAD HEARD BY TELEPHONE FROM GENEVA THAT THE
ICRC HAD INFORMED NORDIC MISSIONS THERE THAT THEY HAD
HEARD FROM LINDT IN FERNANDO PO THAT THE ICRC PILOTS
HAD DECIDED THAT FOR TECHNICAL REASONS IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE
TO MAKE DAY-LIGHT FLIGHTS TO BIAFRA FOR THE TIME BEING.
GIRON THEREFORE THOUGHT THAT THE IMMEDIATE DANGER TO WHICH
I HAD DRAWN ATTENTION HAD BEEN AVERTED. I NEVERTHELESS
URGED HIM STRONGLY THAT THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT SHOULD
MAKE THE REPRESENTATIONS WE HAD SUGGESTED, AS THE NEWS
FROM GENEVA INDICATED THAT THERE WAS STILL A POSSIBILITY
THAT LINDT MIGHT CARRY OUT HIS INTENTION. GIRON
SEEMED PERSONALLY SYMPATHETIC TO OUR VIEW AND SAID
HE WOULD LET US KNOW WHAT THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT DECIDES
TO DO WHEN HE HAD REPORTED OUR REPRESENTATIONS TO HIS
MINISTERS. END TEXT

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By MWA/ARA Date 10/3/05



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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04661 031709Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, NSA 02, AID 28, ACDA 16, SCS 04, SCA 02,

SR 01, ORM 03, SAH 02, RSR 01, /172 W

 R 031600Z SEP 68
 FM USMISSION GENEVA
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8748
 INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
 AMEMBASSY LAGOS
 AMEMBASSY LONDON
 USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4661

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF: CARITAS AND VON ROSEN SOA TOME/BIAFRA FLIGHTS

REF: GENEVA 4621

1. CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES (CRS) AND WORLD COUNCIL CHURCHES (WCC)
 REPS CONFIRM SAO TOME/BIAFRA (ANNEBELLE AIRSTRIP) FLIGHTS BY
 CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN CONTINUING AS USUAL I.E. UNDER
 CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTIES. (IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT NEITHER CRS NOR WCC

IS DIRECTLY INVOLVED IN CHURCH GROUP FLIGHTS. HOWEVER, CRS IS IN
 COMMUNICATIONS WITH CARITAS INTERNATIONALIS, UNDER WHOSE UMBRELLA
 GERMAN CATHOLICS
 AND GERMAN PROTESTANTS GROUPS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR FOUR PLANES FLYING
 FROM SAO TOME, AND WCC IS IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH SCANDINAVIAN CHURCH
 GROUPS RESPONSIBLE FOR FIVE OR SIX PLANES UNDER VON ROSEN).

2. FROM CRS AND WCC COMMENTS MISSION GATHERS THAT CHURCH GROUPS
 WELCOME ICRC INITIATIVE IN PROCEEDING WITH ARRANGMENTS TO USE ISX
 ICRC PLANES IN FLIGHTS TO NEW ICRC AIRSTRIP AT OBILAGO (UTURU),
 AND HOPE FOR ICRC SUCCESS, BUT AT SAME TIME ARE SOMEWHAT APPREHENSIVE
 OVER PROBABILITY ICRC PROGRAM WILL DECREASE ALREADY SHAKY SECURITY

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THEIR OWN CLANDESTINE FLIGHTS. THEY APPARENTLY FEAR THAT BY FOLLOWING DISTINCTIVE NEW FLIGHT PATTERN OF WHICH FMG HAS BEEN ADVISED ICRC WILL SIMPLIFY FMG PROBLEM OF IDENTIFYING NON-ICRC AIRCRAFT FOR ANTI-AIRCRAFT ATTENTION. THIS ESPECIALLY THE CASE IF AS EXPECTED ICRC WILL FLY BY DAY WHILE CHURCH GROUPS PERFORM CONTINUE FLY AT ONLY NIGHT.

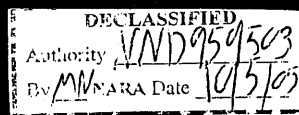
3. ONE OF FOUR "CARITAS" PLANES HAD BEEN, AND PERHAPS STILL IS, OUT WITH MOTOR TROUBLE. HOWEVER SHORTAGE OF CREWS HAD BEEN GREATER FACTOR IN LIMITING FLIGHTS, SOME CREWMEN HAVE QUIT DUE TO HAZARDOUS FLYING CONDITIONS. ACCORDING CRS NEW AND SUFFICIENT CREW ARE EXPECTED FROM VON ROSEN AND "FROM THE U.S."

4. FOUR OR FIVE VON ROSEN PLANES ARE FLYING SAO TOME/BIAFRA. THE PLANE REPORTED IN THE PRESS ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO AS DAMAGED BY ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE WAS RETURNED TO MALMO, SWEDEN FOR EXTENSIVE REPAIRS AND REPORTEDLY IS STILL THERE.

5. CRS GENEVA NOT SURE OF ITS STATISTICS BUT ESTIMATES CARITAS AND VON ROSEN TOGETHER HAVE ADDED THIRTY TO FORTY FLIGHTS TO CRS AUGUST 22 TOTAL OF 60. TWO GROUPS WORKING CLOSELY TOGETHER IN SAO TOME.
TUBBY

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00,

NSC 10, P 04, RSR 01, SP 02, SS 25, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00, SR 01,

ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, AID 28, SAH 02, RSR 01, /142 W

0 032010Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6902
INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USUN NEW YORK 402

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 5550

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REF: LAGOS 12299-ND

1. FONMIN KETEMA TOLD ME TONIGHT THAT NIGERIAN DELEGATION ADDIS HAD TOLD IEG AGREEMENT TO 10-DAY OPENING OF ULI-HAILA HAD BEEN RESULT HIM'S INTERVENTIONS. THIS NIGERIAN GAMBIT, FOLLOWED BY PRESS RELEASE WHICH FAILS MENTION HIM AND OAU EFFORTS, LIKELY TO BE TAKEN HERE AS REFLECTION FMG PIQUE AT HIM'S CONTINUING PRESSURE.

2. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO TAKE IEG (AND PRESUMABLY OAU) REACTIONS INTO ACCOUNT IN COMMENTING ON OTHERWISE HOPEFUL FMG/LINDT AGREEMENT AND IF POSSIBLE INCLUDE MENTION INPUT BY HIM AND OAU IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS.

3. KETEMA ALSO EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT WHAT HE UNDERSTOOD WAS TACIT AGREEMENT THAT AIRFIELD WOULD CONTINUE TO BE USED BY BIAFRANS FOR SUPPLY AND ARMS SHIPMENTS AT NIGHT UNDER SAME CONDITIONS AS AT PRESENT, I.E. THAT THERE WOULD BE NO NEUTRALIZATION OF FIELD. HALL

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*Addis Ababa 5550
9/3/68*

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By MNA Date 10/5/05



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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, E 15, DOT 10, SAH 02, SCS 04, SCA 02, SA 01, AID 28, SR 01,

GPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 25, RSC 01, L 03, H 02, P 04, USIE 00, INR 07,

CIAE 00, NSA 02, ACDA 16, RSR 01, SSO 00, /183 W

R 031033Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2353
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA UNN
DIA UNN
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA

UNCLAS LAGOS 12278

SUBJECT: FMG REPLY TO ICRC DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS

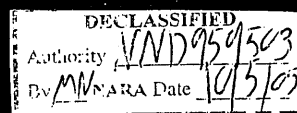
1. EVENING SEPTEMBER 2 FMG ISSUED REPLY TO LINDT MESSAGE ANNOUNCING ICRC WOULD BEGIN DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS FROM FERNANDOPO SEPTEMBER 3. FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT (NON-ESSENTIAL WORDS OMITTED) OF FMG RELEASE:

2. QTE FMG HAS RECEIVED PEREMPTORY MESSAGE FROM DR. A.R. LINDT, CHIEF CO-ORDINATOR OF ICRC IN WEST AFRICA, INFORMING HIM THAT HE INTENDED TO LEAD PERSONALLY FIVE ICRC PLANES CARRYING SUPPLIES FROM FERNANDO PO TO OBLAGU AIRSTRIP IN REBEL-HELD AREA WITH EFFECT FROM SEPTEMBER 3, 1968, BETWEEN 9 A.M. AND 5 P.M.

3. QTE FOUR OF THE FIVE AIRCRAFT WERE PROVIDED BY NORDIC COUNTRIES

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OF DENMARK, SWEDEN, NORWAY AND FINLAND AND FIFTH BY SWITZERLAND.

4. QTE FMG AND RED CROSS THEMSELVES HAVE CONSISTENTLY AND REPEATEDLY STATED THAT BEST WAY OF BRINGING IN MASSIVE SUPPLIES INTO REBEL-HELD AREA IS BY A LAND CORRIDOR.

5. QTE HOWEVER, IN VIEW OF ITS CONCERN FOR SUFFERING CIVILIANS WHOSE FATE IS BEING CALLOUSLY EXPLOITED BY REBEL LEADERS AND UNTIRING EFFORTS OF EMPEROR HAILE SELASSIE AT ADDIS ABABA PEACE TALKS, FMG HAS AGREED TO ALLOW USE OF AIRSTRIIP IN IHIALA-ULI AREA WHICH IS KNOWN TO BE BEST AIRSTRIIP HELD BY REBELS AT MOMENT FOR DIRECT EMERGENCY AIRLIFT OF RELIEF SUPPLIES FOR PERIOD OF ONE WEEK.

6. QTE IT IS IN FACT, THIS VERY AIRSTRIIP WHICH IT IS CLAIMED, ICRC USES BY NIGHT TO FLY IN SUPPLIES FROM FERNAND PO. FMG HAS REPEATEDLY STATED THAT OBILAGU AIRSTRIIP IS NOT ACCEPTABLE AS IT IS NOW IN DIRECT LINE OF IMMEDIATE ADVANCE OF FEDERAL TROOPS.

7. QTE ITS USE FOR RELIEF OPERATIONS WILL BE PRECARIOUS AND SHORT-LIVED. IT IS THEREFORE DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND INSISTENCE OF ICRC ON OBILAGU.

8. QTE FMG HAS INVITED DR. LINDT FOUR DAYS AGO TO DISCUSS MATTER AND INVITATION IS STILL OPEN IN ORDER TO FIND AGREEABLE SOLUTION TO AIR CORRIDOR PROBLEM. FMG STATES CATEGORICALLY THAT IT ABSOLVES ITSELF FROM ANY RESPONSIBILITY ARISING OUT OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF ANY UNAUTHORIZED AND ILLEGAL FLIGHTS INTENDED TO LAND AT OBILAGU AIRSTRIIP.

9. QTE FMG APPEALS TO ALL COUNTRIES WHICH HAVE ANY INFLUENCE ON THE ICRC TO URGE THEM NOT TO CARRY THROUGH THE ACTION UNPRECEDENT IN HISTORY OF THE RED CROSS OF OVERFLYING NIGERIAN TERRITORY AND POSITIONS OF FEDERAL TROOPS WITHOUT AGREEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT.

10. QTE SUCH INTERNATIONALLY ILLEGAL ACTION COULD LEAD TO GRAVE INCIDENTS FOR WHICH NIGERIAN GOVERNMENT CANNOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE.

11. QTE ICRC CAN ADVANCE HUMANITARIAN ENDS WE ALL DESIRE BY APPEALING TO REBEL LEADERS TO CHANGE THEIR PRESENT ATTITUDE OF BEING MORE INSULTING AND INTRANSIGENT WHILE THE FMG DELEGATION AT ADDIS ABABA MAKE MORE CONCILIATORY PROPOSALS AND OFFER NUMEROUS CONCESSIONS.

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MM NARA
Date	10/5/05



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QWM QTE RED CROSS SHOULD URGE THEM TO ACCEPT COMPROMISE PACKAGE
DEAL PROPOSED AT ADDIS ABABA TALKS. UNQUOTE
MATHEWS

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Authority	VND 954/503
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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SSO 00, NSCE 00, CCO 00, USIE 00, CIAF 00, GPM 04, H 02,

INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, SA 01, SAL 01,

SAH 02, AID 28, ACDA 16, PC 04, SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01, /158 W

O P 031614Z SEPT 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2367
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
USMISSION GENEVA
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
RQSUC/AMEMBASSY KINSHASA 866
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION USN NEW YORK
AMCONSL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
CINCSRIKE/CINCEAFSA UNN
RUEOJFA/DIA UNN

RECEIVED BY SEC/

UNCLAS LAGOS 12299

SUBJECT: FMG APPROVES TEMPORARY EMERGENCY RELIEF FLIGHTS

1. FMG ISSUED PRESS RELEASE 4 P.M. SEPTEMBER 3 APPROVING,
FOR 10 DAYS, EMERGENCY RELIEF FLIGHTS AS PROPOSED BY ICRC
DIRECT FROM FERNANDO PO TO ULI-HIALA AIRSTRIP IN BIAFRA.
FULL TEXT OF PRESS RELEASE (NONESSENTIAL WORDS OMITTED) FOLLOWS:

2. QTE HEAD OF FMG AND C-IN-C OF ARMED FORCES, MAJOR-GENERAL
YAKUBU GOWON RECEIVED HE DR. LINDT, ICRC CO-ORDINATOR OF
RELIEF OPERATIONS IN NIGERIA, THIS MORNING TO DISCUSS WAYS
OF SPEEDING UP DELIVERY OF RELIEF SUPPLIES TO PEOPLE
IN THE WAR- AFFECTED AREAS. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY SWISS AMBASSADOR

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TO NIGERIA , HE DR. FRITZ REAL.

3. QTE IT WAS AGREED AS AN EMERGENCY MEASURE FOR DURATION OF TEN DAYS THAT ICRC MAY MOVE SUPPLIES FROM FERNANDO PO DIRECT TO AN AIRSTRIIP IN THE ULI-ITHIALA AREA IN DAYLIGHT, THAT IS BETWEEN 8 A.M. AND 5 P.M. , WITH EFFECT FROM THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1968.

4. QTE IT WAS HOWEVER RECONGISED THAT SCH EMERGENCY RELIEF FRLIGHTS WILL BE INAD@UATE IN FACE OF QUANTITIES OF RELIEF SPPLIES REQUIRED AND THAT MOVEMENT ALONG WATER AND LAND CORRIDORS ARE SEENTIAL.

5. QTE ICRC WILL THEREOFRE IMMEDIATELY USE ITS INFLUENCE AND TAKE STEP TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO MOVE FOOD AND OTHER RELIEF SUPPLIES ALONG LAND CORRIDOR LEADING SOTH FROM ENUGU THROUGH AWGU AND/OR ANY OTHER AGREED CORRIDORS.

6. QTE HE DR. LINDT ASSURED C-IN-C THAT ICRC WILL CONTINUE TO COPERATE WITH FMG OVER THEIR RELIEF OPERATIONS IN NIGERIA AND EXPLAINED THAT IT WAS NEVER THEIR INTENTION TO BRING IN SUPPLIES INTO THE COUNTRY UNDER ARMED ESCORD AS THAT WOULD BE CONTRARY TO THE PRINCIPLES OF THE RED CROSS. UNQTE FURTHER DETAILS BY SEPTTEL.

MATHEWS

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 12314 031714Z.

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ACTION AID 85

INFO AF 06, IO 13, IGA 02, E 04, SP 01, R 01, ORM 01, SCS 01, SCA 01, L 03,

INR 07, EUR 08, /133 W

P R 031640Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2374
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 12314.

AIDAC

TOAID 2889

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF-STATUS REPORT

JOINT USAID/EMBASSY MESSAGE

1. AIRCRAFT: ICRC DC-4'S RESUMED FLIGHTS CALABAR AND ENUGU
AS OF 31 AUGUST.

TWO UNICEF CHARTERED HELICOPTERS ARRIVED LAGOS SEPTEMBER 1.

2. FOOD: ORIENTAL EXPORTER CARRYING 3000 MT CSM UNICEF SHIPMENT
DUE LAGOS SEPT 8.
DECONTROL AFTER 9/1/69. MATHEWS

MICROFILMED BY 85/01

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TR POL 16 BIAFRA
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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02,

INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, AID 28, SR 01,

ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, RSR 01, /140 W

P R 031700Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2375
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NY 427

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12315

SUBJECT: OUAI D'ORSAY ATTITUDE ON BIAFRA

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM UK AMBASSADOR IN PARIS GIVEN US
BY UK HICOM LAGOS (PROTECT):

1. QTE WHEN I SAW M. DEBRE YESTERDAY I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY
TO SAY THAT I HAD BEEN VERY SORRY TO FIND THAT THE NIGERIAN
SITUATION WAS BECOMING A SERIOUS IRRITANT IN ALGO-FRENCH
RELATIONS BECAUSE OF TENDENTIOUS REPORTING IN THE FRENCH
PRESS WHICH WAS OFTEN GIVEN AN ANTI-BRITISH SLANT. I
FULLY UNDERSTOOD THAT FEELINGS SHOULD BE AROUSED IN FRANCE
BY THE TRAGIC SITUATION IN BIAFRA AND OF COURSE THE SAME WAS
TRUE IN BRITAIN. AS M. DEBRE WOULD HAVE SEEN FROM RECENT
MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, HOWEVER,
MUCH OF THE BIAFRAN PROPAGANDA WAS GROSSLY MISLEADING OR
DOWNRIGHT FALSE. NO DOUBT THERE WERE WRONGS ON BOTH SIDES,
BUT THE WRONG WAS CERTAINLY NOT ALL ON ONE SIDE, AS ONE
MIGHT THINK FROM READING THE FRENCH PRESS. IN THIS
CONNECTION, SPEAKING PERSONALLY, I COULD NOT HELP THINKING
THAT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S STATEMENT OF 31 JULY HAD BEEN
UNHELPFUL SINCE IT COULD ONLY HAVE ENCOURAGED THE BIAFRANS
IN THEIR INTRANSIGENT REFUSAL OF ANY COMPROMISE.

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2. QTE M. DEBRE SEEMED GENUINELY UNAWARE OF THE ANTI-BRITISH TONE OF SO MUCH OF THE FRENCH REPORTING ABOUT BIAFRA. HE SAID THAT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT'S STATEMENT WAS IN NO WAY DIRECTED AGAINST BRITAIN. IT DEALT WITH A SITUATION OF FACT. THIS WAS ESSENTIALLY A WAR OF RELIGION. THE LANGUAGE WHICH THE QUOTE FEDERAL COLONELS UNQTE CONTINUED TO EMPLOY JUSTIFIED THE WORST FEARS ABOUT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S INTENTIONS, OF WHICH THE MASSACRE OF IBOS WHICH HAD FOLLOWED THE CAPTURE OF PORT HARCOURT WAS AN EXAMPLE. HE COULD NOT UNDERSTAND THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL OF AN AIR CORRIDOR FOR RELIEF SUPPLIES. HE WAS INFORMED THAT IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO INSURE AIRCRAFT CARRYING SUCH SUPPLIES UNDER INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS MARKINGS BECAUSE THEY WERE LIABLE TO BE FIRED ON BY FEDERAL FORCES.

3. QTE I SAID THAT IT WAS MISLEADING TO DESCRIBE THE CIVIL WAR AS A WAR OF RELIGION. THERE WERE MANY CHRISTIANS IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, AND IN FEDERAL TERRITORY. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAD SUFFICIENT REASON TO SUSPECT THAT ARMS WERE BEING FLOWN IN SECRETLY TO BIAFRA TO JUSTIFY THEIR INSISTENCE ON STRICT CONTROL OF AIRCRAFT CARRYING SUPPLIES. NOTHING COULD BE GAINED BY ENCOURAGING THE BIAFRANS IN AN INTRANSIGENCE WHICH COULD ONLY PROLONG THE SUFFERINGS OF THEIR OWN POPULATION.

4. QTE M. DEBRE WAS CLEARLY NOT CONVINCED. BUT HE SAID NOTHING TO SUGGEST THAT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT ARE CONTEMPLATING FORMAL RECOGNITION OF BIAFRA. UNQTE
GP-3 MATHEWS

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 02, SCS 04, RSR 01, CIAE 00,
DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25,
USIA 12, NSA 02, SAH 02, /156 W

R 031900Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2376
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA
USUN NY 428

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12324

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF

1. BELOW IS TEXT UKHC MESSAGE TO LONDON REPORTING SEPT.
2 CONVERSATION WITH GOWON WHICH WILL BE OF INTEREST.

BEGIN TEXT: I WAS RECEIVED AT 1000 HOURS THIS MORNING
BY GOWON ACCOMPANIED BY ARIKPO AND BABA GANA. I WENT
INTO SOME DETAIL ABOUT OUR ACTIVITIES WITH ICRC, PAR-
TICULARLY IN ATTEMPTING TO PERSUADE LINDT TO COME TO
LAGOS. I THEN ENQUIRED WHETHER LINDT'S TELEGRAM HAD
BEEN RECEIVED. IT HAD BEEN SEEN BY ARIKPO ONLY THIS
(I SAW P AND T DATE STAMP) BUT ANOTHER COPY
HAD APPARENTLY REACHED DODAN BARRACKS ON 1ST. I ASKED
GOWON WHAT HIS VIEWS WERE. HE SAID VERY SERIOUSLY
THAT HE HAD MADE HIS VIEWS CLEAR IN HIS BROADCAST.

HE REGARDED OFFER OF OBILAGO AS A RUSE, ADDING IT WOULD
SHORTLY BE CAPTURED BY HIS TROOPS. HE
COMPLAINED BITTERLY THAT OBILAGO HAD
NEVER BEEN AGREED WITH FMG. ICRC HAD CARRIED
ON LONG NEGOTIATIONS WITH OJUKWU, SIGNED AN AGREEMENT
WITH HIM AND THEN FLUNG IT AT GOWON ON A TAKE-IT-OR-
LEAVE-IT BASIS WITH FIVE HOURS NOTICE BEFORE IT WAS

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ANNOUNCED AT A PRESS CONFERENCE. HE HAD GONE VERY FAR IN HIS BROADCAST BY SAYING HE WOULD AGREE TO IHIALA. THIS WAS A PRACTICAL SUGGESTION (GALOPIN IS OUT OF STEP WITH BIAFRA: AT MOMENT HE WAS SAYING THIS AIRSTRIP WAS NON-EXISTENT; BIAFRA RADIO WAS SAYING IT WAS THEIR PRINCIPAL OPERATIONAL BASE WHICH IS TRUE). HE THOUGHT THIS OFFER HAD ONLY BEEN SWALLOWED HERE BECAUSE NIGERIAN OPINION WAS PLEASED AT HIS ANNOUNCING OPERATIONS TO FINISH OFF THE WAR.

2. HE SAID THAT THEY DISTRUSTED THE LINDT PROPOSALS BECAUSE THEY WOULD HAVE GIVEN THE TECHNICAL DETAILS TO THE REBELS ALSO WHO WOULD TRY TO SNEAK IN ARMS FLIGHTS UNDER THEIR COVER, QUITE A POSSIBLE COURSE IN THE PREVAILING WEATHER. HE ENDED BY COMPLAINING THAT THE RED CROSS WERE OBVIOUSLY BIASED AGAINST FMG AS SHOWN BY LINDT'S REFUSAL TO COME TO LAGOS.

3. I SAID THAT, WHATEVER THE JUSTIFICATION OF HIS COMPLAINT, IT WOULD BE DISASTROUS FOR THEIR CAUSE IF THEY WERE TO SHOOT DOWN OR BOMB RED CROSS AIRCRAFT. I COULD NOT SEE HOW, AS A CHRISTIAN AND A SOLDIER, HE COULD INSTRUCT HIS MEN TO FIRE AT UNARMED PLANES; FOR, I TOLD HIM PLAINLY, THE STORY OF FIGHTER ESCORTS WAS NONSENSE. GOWON ACCEPTED MY WORD ABOUT FIGHTERS; HE WOULD NOT BE DRAWN ON WHAT HE WOULD DO TO THE TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT BEYOND SAYING QTE LET THEM GO TO IHIALA UNQTE.

4. I ASKED HIM TO RING UP LINDT AT FERNANDO PO AND MAKE A FINAL APPEAL FOR HIM TO COME TO LAGOS. HE INSTRUCTED BABA GANA TO DO SO AT ONCE; HE WILL, IN FACT, DO IT THROUGH NIGERIAN CONSUL ON TELEX.

5. I TOLD HIM THAT THIS OFFER OF IHIALA WAS BEING MIS-UNDERSTOOD AND BEGGED HIM TO RESPOND TO WHATEVER CAME OUT AT TODAY'S PRESS CONFERENCE BY SAYING THAT HE WAS PREPARED TO ALLOW RED CROSS PLANES TO USE BY DAY THE SAME AIRFIELD AS THEY WERE USING BY NIGHT. THIS SIMPLE FORMULA OUGHT TO SINK IN. HE AGREED TO DO SO. I AM NOT SURE WHETHER HE MAY NOT ADD THAT PERMISSION WOULD BE FOR A LIMITED PERIODICALLY, UNTIL STOCKS ACCUMULATED ON FERNANDO PO HAVE BEEN CLEARED; OR

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ADD SOME QUALIFICATION ABOUT NEUTRALIZATION.

6. GOWON WAS VERY SERIOUS AND SHOWED HIS SENSE OF IMPORTANCE OF OCCASION BY HAVING HIS FOREIGN MINISTER AND PERMANENT SECRETARY PRESENT, AND HAVING A NOTE MADE BY HIS PRINCIPAL SECRETARY. I DEPLOYED ALL THE ARGUMENTS YOU RECOMMENDED BUT HIS RESPONSE WAS ALWAYS THAT HE MUST DEFEND NIGERIAN SOVEREIGNTY. HE OBVIOUSLY FELT THAT AN AFRICAN COUNTRY WAS BEING UNJUSTLY PILLORIED BY EUROPEAN PUBLIC OPINION AND HE WAS DETERMINED TO SHOW THAT NIGERIA HAD HER RIGHTS. END TEXT
GP-3 MATHEWS

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 28, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07,
L 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, SAH 02, SCS 04, SCA 02,
SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01, /156 W

R 031942/Z SEP 68/
FM AMSTBASSY LAGOS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2377
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USUN NY 429
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12325

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF

1
FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF TELEGRAM FROM UK EMBASSY STOCKHOLM
DATED SEPT. 2 HANDED TO US TODAY BY UKHC : BEGIN TEXT
I SPOKE TO GIRON, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF POLITICAL AFFAIRS,
AS INSTRUCTED THIS MORNING. HE SAID THAT THE FOREIGN
MINISTRY HAD HEARD BY TELEPHONE FROM GENEVA THAT THE
ICRC HAD INFORMED NORDIC MISSIONS THERE THAT THEY HAD
HEARD FROM LINDT IN FERNANDO PO THAT THE ICRC PILOTS
HAD DECIDED THAT FOR TECHNICAL REASONS IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE
TO MAKE DAY-LIGHT FLIGHTS TO BIAFRA FOR THE TIME BEING.
GIRON THEREFORE THOUGHT THAT THE IMMEDIATE (#) TO WHICH
I HAD DRAWN ATTENTION HAD BEEN AVERTED. I NEVERTHELESS
URGED HIM STRONGLY THAT THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT SHOULD
MAKE THE REPRESENTATIONS WE HAD SUGGESTED, AS THE NEWS
FROM GENEVA INDICATED THAT THERE WAS STILL A POSSIBILITY
THAT LINDT MIGHT CARRY OUT HIS INTENTION. GIRON
SEEMED PERSONALLY SYMPATHETIC TO OUR VIEW AND SAID
HE WOULD LET US KNOW WHAT THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT DECIDES
TO DO WHEN HE HAD REPORTED OUR REPRESENTATIONS TO HIS
MINISTERS. END TEXT
GP-3 MATHEWS

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NOTE: (#) APPARENT OMISSION. VERIFICATION BEING REQUESTED.

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By	MW/ARA
Date	10/3/05



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INFO EUR 15, IO 13, NSA 02, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, SAH 02, AID 28, SR 01,
ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, RSR 01, /156 W

R 031953Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2378
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USUN NY 430
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12326
SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

1. THERE FOLLOWS TEXT UKHC LAGOS SEPTEMBER 2 MESSAGE TO LONDON WHICH WILL BE OF INTEREST. ICRC REPS HERE HAVE EXPRESSED TO US MUCH SAME VIEW OF LINDT'S ACTIVITIES AS DESCRIBED TO UKHC.

2. BEGIN TEXT. THE ICRC REPRESENTATIVES HERE TAKE SAME VIEW OF LINDT'S ACTION AS WE DO, AND HAVE PRIVATELY DESCRIBED LINDT'S HANDLING OF THE SITUATION AS QUOTE MADNESS UNQUOTE AND QUOTE CATASTROPHIC UNQUOTE. THEY ARE FULLY AWARE OF IMPLICATIONS, INCLUDING POSSIBLE ACCUSATIONS OF QUOTE RACIALISM UNQUOTE. THEY FEAR FMG MAY THROW OUT ALL ICRC PERSONNEL AND DO NOT THEMSELVES CONSIDER SUCH ACTION UNJUSTIFIED. THEY ARE BITTER AND UPSET.

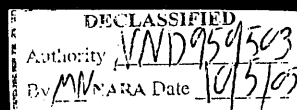
3. ICRC HERE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT LINDT HAS ATTEMPTED TO TELL GALOPIN THE FEDERAL SIDE OF THE PICTURE.

4. CHURCH AND HOCKEKHITZ'S ASSISTANT HAVE BEEN SUMMONED TO BRIGADIER EKPOK CHIEF OF STAFF AT 2 PM. THEY FEAR THE WORST.

5. I HAVE ALSO DISCUSSED WITH GUSSING WHO FULLY AGREES WITH MY ASSESSMENT AND IS APPREHENSIVE ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES FOR

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RELIEF ACTIVITIES IN FEDERAL TERRITORY. END TEXT
GP-3. MATHEWS

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INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CCO 00, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25

SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, AID 28, SAH 02, SA 01, RSR 01, 143 W

O P 031830Z SEP 68 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2379
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
USUN NY 431

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12327

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (NUMBERED PARAGRAPH 7)

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF-LINDT/GOWON MEETING OF SEPT 3

REF: LAGOS 12299

1. REFTEL REPORTS OUTCOME LINDT-GOWON MEETING WHICH VERY NEARLY FAILED COME OFF BUT DID AND WAS HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL WITH BOTH LINDT AND GOWON PLEASED AT OUTCOME. SWISS AMB. REAL, WHOSE PERSONAL APPEAL TO LINDT IN FERNANDO PO AND WHOSE EFFORTS KEPT LINDT ON SCENE FOR MEETING DESPITE APPARENT STANDUP (WHICH TURNED OUT TO BE NORMAL FMG SNAFU) DESERVES MAJOR CREDIT. FOLLOWING BACK-GROUND WILL BE OF INTEREST TO ADDRESSEES:

2. AGREEMENT ON EMERGENCY DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS TO ULI-IHIALA FOR TEN-DAY PERIOD BEGINNING 5 SEP. WAS COMPROMISE BETWEEN FMG SEVEN DAYS AND LINDT FOURTEEN DAYS. LINDT'S OBJECTIVES WAS TO EVACUATE ALL REMAINING RELIEF SUPPLIES AT FERNANDO PO. HE SEEMS TO FEEL THAT SIX PLANES AVAILABLE (4 DC-6'S, 1 DC-7 AND 1 C-130) MAKING SEVERAL FLIGHTS A DAY BETWEEN THE HOURS OF EIGHT A.M. AND FIVE P.M. WILL PRETTY WELL ACCOMPLISH OBJECTIVE. LINDT CLAIMS IBOS HAVE

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BEEN ABLE DISCHARGE CARGO FROM PLANE IN TWENTY MINUTES. HOURS OF FLIGHTS ARE INTERPRETED AS MEANING TIME OVER FEDERAL-CONTROLLED TERRITORY. DURING TEN-DAY PERIOD, ICRC HAS BEEN "GUARANTEED" THERE WILL BE NO RPT NO ATTACKS ON PLANES. DURING THIS PERIOD, ICRC WILL MAKE NO RPT NO NIGHT FLIGHTS BUT TONIGHT AND TOMORROW NIGHT WILL MAKE FLIGHTS INTO OBILAGO AT OWN RISK. NO RPT NO DISCUSSION TOOK PLACE AS TO ROUTING OF PLANES FROM FERNANDO PO TO ULI-IHIALA AND SWISS AMB. POINTS OUT HE MUST NOW GET DECISION ON ROUTES.

3. LINDT MUST, OF COURSE, GET OJUKWU'S AGREEMENT TO DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS INTO ULI-IHIALA BUT ANTICIPATES THAT THIS CAN BE DONE. WITH AGREEMENT, OF COURSE, OJUKWU LOSES POSSIBILITY INTERNATIONALIZATION OF AN AIRSTRIPE, BUT ON OTHER HAND, FMG WILL HAVE TO REFRAIN FROM BOMBING ATTACKS ULI-IHIALA DURING TEN-DAY PERIOD. IF OJUKWU REFUSES ACCEPT DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS AS ARRANGED BY LINDT, BLAME FOR FAILURE GET RELIEF SUPPLIES IN WOULD SHIFT TO REBELS.

4. LINDT, WHO PLEASED WITH OUTCOME, INTENDS, AS HE AGREED, TO PRESS FOR OPENING OF LAND/WATER CORRIDOR. (OGUTA, TERMINUS ONE WATER CORRIDOR REPORTED IN FMG HANDS). IF NO AGREEMENT ON SUCH CORRIDOR IS REACHED, HE PLANS MEET AGAIN WITH GOWON TO DISCUSS MATTER AS WELL AS FLYING RELIEF SUPPLIES INTO REBEL AREA FROM LAGOS. LATTER POINT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN TENTATIVELY AGREED AND SUBJECT FURTHER DISCUSSION.

5. PRESENT AT GOWON/LINDT MEETING WERE SWISFAMB., REAL, PERMSEC MINEXTAFF, BABA GANA, PERMSEC, INDUSTRIES, ASIODU, BRIG. EKPO, PERMSEC, INFORMATION, JOJM, STATE HOUSE, HAMZAD AHMADU, AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL ELIAS. REAL STATES THAT MEETING WAS AMICABLE WITH NO RPT NO RECRIMINATIONS. HE AND LINDT FOUND GOWON BY FAR MOST REASONABLE WITH ELIAS HELPFUL THROUGHOUT. MOST DIFFICULT FMG PERSONALITIES DURING NEGOTIATIONS WERE ASIODU AND BABA GANA. GOWON WAS EXERCISED BY COUNT VON ROSEN'S PROPOSAL WHICH LINDT POINTED OUT HE HAD TURNED DOWN. FEELINGS AGAINST ROSEN MELLOWED A BIT WHEN REAL RECALLED THAT THE COUNT HAD FLOWN FOR ETHIOPIA BEHIND ITALIAN LINES DURING ABYSSINIAN WAR.

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6. MEETING NEARLY FAILED COME OFF WHEN SWISS AMB. UNABLE REACH ANYONE AT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DURING YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AND EVENING TO GET FIX ON TIME. UK HIGH COMMISSIONER ULTIMATELY REACHED HAMZAD AHMADU, AND THEN AFTER DRAMATIC EFFORT AROUSE HOUSEHOLD HIMSELF, INFORMED SWISS AMB. ABOUT MIDNIGHT. HUNT'S MIDNIGHT VISIT TO REAL'S RESIDENCE WAS FOLLOWED SHORTLY BY FORMAL NOTE FROM HAMZAD AHMADU INFORMING LINDT MEETING WAS SCHEDULED FOR NINE A.M. TODAY. LINDT, WHO HAD PLANNED LEAVE AT 08:30 A.M. AND COMPLETELY OUT OF SORTS OVER WHAT HE THOUGHT TO BE RUNAROUND, WAS STILL PREPARED LEAVE AS OF 7/30 A.M. THIS MORNING, BUT PERSUADED BY REAL TO STAY ON FOR MEETING. LINDT, OF COURSE, HAPPY HE DECIDED STAY.

7. SWISS AMB. STATES THAT LPCDT HAD NO RPT NO INTENTION AT ANYTIME, DESPITE IMPLICATIONS READ INTO HIS ANNOUNCEMENTS, TO FLY ICRC PLANES DURING DAYTIME WITHOUT FMG AGREEMENT. GIVEN NO RPT NO AGREEMENT, HE PLANNED SEND PLANES IN AT NIGHT. REAL ALSO NOTED THAT ICRC FLIGHTS HAD BEEN FIRED ON SEVERAL TIMES IN LAST TWO WEEKS AND, AS CONSEQUENCE, ARMS FLIGHTS WHICH HAD BEEN FLYING IN SHADOW ICRC FLIGHTS CEASED DO SO BECAUSE REGARDED AS TOO DANGEROUS.

8. LINDT DEPARTED 1415 ZULU FOR FERNANDO PO.
GP-3 MATHEWS

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INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CCO 00, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00,

GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25,

SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 02, AID 28, SAH 02, SA 01, RSR 01, 143 W

O P 031830Z SEP 68 ZFF4
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2379
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
USUN NY 431

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12327

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF-LINDT/GOWON MEETING OF SEPT 3

REF: LAGOS 12299

1. REFTEL REPORTS OUTCOME LINDT-GOWON MEETING WHICH VERY NEARLY FAILED COME OFF BUT DID AND WAS HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL WITH BOTH LINDT AND GOWON PLEASED AT OUTCOME. SWISS AMB. REAL, WHOSE PERSONAL APPEAL TO LINDT IN FERNANDO PO AND WHOSE EFFORTS KEPT LINDT ON SCENE FOR MEETING DESPITE APPARENT STANDUP (WHICH TURNED OUT TO BE NORMAL FMG SNAFU) DESERVES MAJOR CREDIT. FOLLOWING BACK-GROUND WILL BE OF INTEREST TO ADDRESSEES:

2. AGREEMENT ON EMERGENCY DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS TO ULI-IHIALA FOR TEN-DAY PERIOD BEGINNING 5 SEPT. WAS COMPROMISE BETWEEN FMG SEVEN DAYS AND LINDT FOURTEEN DAYS. LINDT'S OBJECTIVES WAS TO EVACUATE ALL REMAINING RELIEF SUPPLIES AT FERNANDO PO. HE SEEMS TO FEEL THAT SIX PLANES AVAILABLE (4 DC-6'S, 1 DC-7 AND 1 C-130) MAKING SEVERAL FLIGHTS A DAY BETWEEN THE HOURS OF EIGHT A.M. AND FIVE P.M. WILL PRETTY WELL ACCOMPLISH OBJECTIVE. LINDT CLAIMS IBOS HAVE BEEN ABLE DISCHARGE CARGO FROM PLANE IN TWENTY MINUTES. HOURS OF FLIGHTS ARE INTERPRETED AS MEANING TIME OVER

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Authority VND 954503
By MWA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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FEDERAL-CONTROLLED TERRITORY. DURING TEN-DAY PERIOD, ICRC HAS BEEN "GUARANTEED" THERE WILL BE NO RPT NO ATTACKS ON PLANES. DURING THIS PERIOD, ICRC WILL MAKE NO RPT NO NIGHT FLIGHTS BUT TONIGHT AND TOMORROW NIGHT WILL MAKE FLIGHTS INTO OBILAGO AT OWN RISK. NO RPT NO DISCUSSION TOOK PLACE AS TO ROUTING OF PLANES FROM FERNANDO PO TO ULI-IHIALA AND SWISS AMB. POINTS OUT HE MUST NOW GET DECISION ON ROUTES.

3. LINDT MUST, OF COURSE, GET OJUKWU'S AGREEMENT TO DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS INTO ULI-IHIALA BUT ANTICIPATES THAT THIS CAN BE DONE. WITH AGREEMENT, OF COURSE, OJUKWU LOSES POSSIBILITY INTERNATIONALIZATION OF AN AIRSTRIIP, BUT ON OTHER HAND, FMG WILL HAVE TO REFRAIN FROM BOMBING ATTACKS ULI-IHIALA DURING TEN-DAY PERIOD. IF OJUKWU REFUSES ACCEPT DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS AS ARRANGED BY LINDT, BLAME FOR FAILURE GET RELIEF SUPPLIES IN WOULD SHIFT TO REBELS.

4. LINDT, WHO PLEASED WITH OUTCOME, INTENDS, AS HE AGREED, TO PRESS FOR OPENING OF LAND/WATER CORRIDOR. (OGUTA, TERMINUS ONE WATER CORRIDOR REPORTED IN FMG HANDS). IF NO AGREEMENT ON SUCH CORRIDOR IS REACHED, HE PLANS MEET AGAIN WITH GOWON TO DISCUSS MATTER AS WELL AS FLYING RELIEF SUPPLIES INTO REBEL AREA FROM LAGOS. LATTER POINT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN TENTATIVELY AGREED AND SUBJECT FURTHER DISCUSSION.

5. PRESENT AT GOWON/LINDT MEETING WERE SWISS AMB., REAL; PERMSEC MINEXTAFF, BABA GANA; PERMSEC, INDUSTRIES, ASIODU; BRIG. EKPO; PERMSEC, INFORMATION, JOJM; STATE HOUSE, HAMZAD AHMADU, AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL ELIAS. REAL STATES THAT MEETING WAS AMICABLE WITH NO RPT NO RECRIMINATIONS. HE AND LINDT FOUND GOWON BY FAR MOST REASONABLE WITH ELIAS HELPFUL THROUGHOUT. MOST DIFFICULT FMG PERSONALITIES DURING NEGOTIATIONS WERE ASIODU AND BABA GANA. GOWON WAS EXERCISED BY COUNT VON ROSEN'S PROPOSAL WHICH LINDT POINTED OUT HE HAD TURNED DOWN. FEELINGS AGAINST ROSEN MELLOWED A BIT WHEN REAL RECALLED THAT THE COUNT HAD FLOWN FOR ETHIOPIA BEHIND ITALIAN LINES DURING ABYSSINIAN WAR.

6. MEETING NEARLY FAILED COME OFF WHEN SWISS AMB.

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UNABLE REACH ANYONE AT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DURING YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AND EVENING TO GET FIX ON TIME. UK HIGH COMMISSIONER ULTIMATELY REACHED HAMZAD AHMADU, AND THEN AFTER DRAMATIC EFFORT AROUSE HOUSEHOLD HIMSELF, INFORMED SWISS AMB. ABOUT MIDNIGHT. HUNT'S MIDNIGHT VISIT TO REAL'S RESIDENCE WAS FOLLOWED SHORTLY BY FORMAL NOTE FROM HAMZAD AHMADU INFORMING LINDT MEETING WAS SCHEDULED FOR NINE A.M. TODAY. LINDT, WHO HAD PLANNED LEAVE AT 08:30 A.M. AND COMPLETELY OUT OF SORTS OVER WHAT HE THOUGHT TO BE RUNAROUND, WAS STILL PREPARED LEAVE AS OF 7/30 A.M. THIS MORNING, BUT PERSUADED BY REAL TO STAY ON FOR MEETING. LINDT, OF COURSE, HAPPY HE DECIDED STAY.

7 SWISS AMB. STATES THAT LPCDT HAD NO RPT NO INTENTION AT ANYTIME, DESPITE IMPLICATIONS RBWPD INLT# HIS ANNOUNCEMENTS, TO FLY ICRC PLANES DURING DAYTIME WITHOUT FMG AGREEMENT. EVEN NO RPT NO AGREEMENT, HE PLANNED SEND PLANES IN AT NIGHT. REAL ALSO NOTED THAT ICRC FLIGHTS HAD BEEN FIRED ON SEVERAL TIMES IN LAST TWO WEEKS AND, AS CONSEQUENCE, ARMS FLIGHTS WHICH HAD BEEN FLYING IN SHADOW ICRC FLIGHTS CEASED DO SO BECAUSE REGARDED AS TOO DANGEROUS.

8. LINDT DEPARTED 1415 ZULU FOR FERNANDO PO.
GP-3 MATHEWS

NOTE: AS RECEIVED, WILL SERVICE UPON REQUEST.

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Authority	VND959503
By	MMNARA Date 10/3/03

37

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

231418

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TOSECRET *Ref*

Classification

28 SEP 68 17 10z

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Origin	ACTION:	Amembassy ADDIS ABABA	IMMEDIATE
		Amembassy LAGOS	IMMEDIATE

Info	INFO:	Amembassy LONDON	PRIORITY
		USMission GENEVA	PRIORITY
		USUN	PRIORITY

STATE

Ref (A) State 231398 (B) Addis 5524

1. Believe instructions to Embassy Lagos to see Arikpo (ref A) are in spirit IEG request of us for support Emperor's plea to Gowon for temporary ten-day authorization for flights (ref B), which crossed Dept outgoing message.
2. British Embassy has just informed us they have learned that Lindt will be seeing Gowon tomorrow.

MICROFILMED BY 101

RUSK

5

Drafted by: AF/W - Mr. Melbourne: *js*

Clearances: AF - Mr. Palmer *js* (substance)

Tel. Ext. 2619

Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by:

AF - Ambassador Moore *js*

FORM 8-65 DS-322

SECRET
Classification

0810

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Authority: WND 950503

By: MVA Date: 10/5/02



POL 27-9 BIAFRA GOWA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
22

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 05526 021745Z

51
ACTION SS 70

INFO CCO 00,SSO 00,NSCE 00,ODE 00,CIAE 00,1070 W

O 021610Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6881
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 5526

LIMDIS

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF

COPY OF FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM HIM TO GENERAL GOWON JUST
DELIVERED TO EMBASSY BY FONMIN MESSENGER. ASSUME TRANSMITTED
GOWON THROUGH FMG EMBASSY ADDIS. WE ARE ATTEMPTING CONFIRM.
IF EMBASSY LAGOS AGREES, SEE NO OBJECTION ITS MAKING COURTESY
COPY AVAILABLE IEG AMBASSADOR.

QTE
MOST IMMEDIATE
H.E. MAJ. GENERAL GOWON
HEAD OF THE FMG
LAGOS

1. YOUR EXCELLENCY, THE FOLLOWING IS THE REPLY I HAVE
GIVEN TO THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS CONCERNING THEIR INTENTION
TO UNDERTAKE UNAUTHORIZED FLIGHTS FROM FERNANDO PO TO OBLIAGO
AIRSTRIIP AS OF 3RD SEPT 1968.

INNER QTE
I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR MESSAGE OF SEPT 2, 1968 REQUESTING
ME TO USE MY INFLUENCE WITH THE FMG NOT TO INTERFERE WITH
UNAPPROVED FLIGHTS BY THE RED CROSS FROM FERNANDO PO TO
OBLIAGO AIRSTRIIP. AS YOU ARE AWARE, I HAVE BEEN CONCERNED WITH
MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR AN AGREEMENT ON AIR AND LAND CORRIDORS
FOR RELIEF SUPPLIES TO THE NEEDY. INSPITE OF THE FACT THAT

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Addis Ababa 5526
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By MNA Date 10/5/05



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PAGE 02 ADDIS 05526 021745Z

YOUR PROPOSALS TO OVERFLY FEDERAL TERRITORY HAVE BEEN MOTIVATED BY HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS, NEVERTHELESS SUCH ACTION UNDERTAKEN WITHOUT THE CONSENT AND IN THE FACE OF OBJECTIONS BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF NIGERIA INFRINGES ON THE SOVEREIGNTY OF NIGERIA AND AS SUCH I CAN NEITHER RECOMMEND IT NOR INTERCEDE ON BEHALF OF SUCH ACTIONS. I ASSURE YOU THAT I WILL CONTINUE IN MY EFFORT TO GET AGREEMENT OF THE PARTIES FOR OPENING UP BOTH AIR AND LAND CORRIDORS. END INNER QTE.

2. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES AND IN ORDER TO AVOID ANY INCIDENT INVOLVING YOUR EXCELLENCY'S GOVERNMENT AND THE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS, I AGAIN APPEAL TO YOUR EXCELLENCY TO GIVE YOUR UTMOST CONSIDERATION TO MY MESSAGE OF SEPT 1, 1968 AND THUS FORECLOSE THE POSSIBILITY OF

UNDESIRABLE INCIDENTS TAKING PLACE. PLEASE ACCEPT YOUR EXCELLENCY THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION AND FRATERNAL ESTEEM YOUR GOOD FRIEND HAILE SELASSIE I EMPEROR. END QTE.

HALL

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Authority	VND 954503
By	MW NARA
Date	10/3/05

L I M D I S
I N C O M I N G

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POST

Addis Ababa

(Time Received)

SERIAL

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123 SEP 2 PM 3 15

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Geographic

AF5 5
ARA 9 5
EA 11 5
EUR 9 9
NEA 7 9

Other

ACDA 5
AID/EXSEC 3
AA/AFR2
AA/VN 2
AA/EA 3
AA/NESA 2

Principals

ES2 4
S 4
U 4
M2 4
G 4
SIG 1
S/AH3 1
S/AL 1
SA 1
S/CPR 1
S/GOV 1
S/IL 1
S/P 1
S/R 1
S/FW 1
S/PM 1
M/WP 1
G/PM 1

Functional

CU 4
E2 4
H 4
IGA 4
INR 4
IO4 4
L2 4
O3 4
OPR 4
OC 4
SY 4
WLG 4
P2 4
SCA 4
SCS 4
SCI 4

OTHER AGENCIES

WH 10 10
CIA 10
DOD 10
USIA 4
NSA 4

PC 4
VP 4
AEC3 4
AGR3 4
COM2 4
EXIM 4
FRB 4
LAB 4
NASA 4
NIC 4
STR 4
TRANS 4
TRSY6 4
JUS 4
IRS 4
INT 4
BOB 4
FBI 4
CEA 4
FAA 4
File 4
Burned 4

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Authority VMD954503
By MWA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAPRA - NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**
22

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 04639 021308Z

03
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SSO 00, NSCE 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, GPMI 04, H 02, INR 07,

L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 25, USIA 12, AID 28, SR 01,

SCS 04, SCA 02, ORM 03, SA 01, SAH 02, RSR 01, E 15, 170 W

O 021142Z SEP 68 ZFF-6
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8728
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USUN NEW YORK 7298

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 4639

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

1. PICTET TELLS ME BE NO DAY FLIGHT TOMORROW. FIRST FLIGHT AT NIGHT, THO' LANDING LIGHTS AT OBILAGO NOT AS GOOD AS WOULD LIKE. FOLLOWING FLIGHTS EXPECT TO BE DAYLIGHT.

2. LINDT WILL BE ON FIRST FLIGHT. NO ANNOUNCEMENT OF THIS IN PRESS RELEASE, ACCORDANCE OUR REPRESENTATION (GENEVA 4635).

3. USIS FILING FULL REPORT ICRC GALLOPIN. PRESS CONFERENCE TO ABOVE ADDRESSEES. TUBBY

GENEVA - 4639
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CONFIDENTIAL

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Authority VND 959503
By MVA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 0400Z

12
ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, AID 22, GER 01, FORM 23, SAH 02, SCS 24, SCA 02, CIAF 03,

CODE 00, GPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02

SS 25, NSCE 00, SCD 00, INR 00, RSP 01, CCO 00, SA 01, E 15, DOT 10

/168 W

O 011020Z SEP 68 ZFFA
FM USMISSION GENEVA
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8924
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T GENEVA 4635

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

1. GAVE PICKET, DEPUTY TO GALLOPIN, SUBSTANCE PARAS ONE AND TWO STAE 221363 AS REQUESTED. HE NOTED THAT IN LINDT MESSAGE GOWON (GENEVA 4635), REFERENCE AGAIN MADE THAT ALL EFFORTS SHOULD BE MADE REACH AGREEMENT ON LAND OR WATER CORRIDOR BUT PENDING SUCH AGREEMENT PROVISIONAL AND TEMPORARY MEASURES NECESSARY VIA STEPPED-UP AIR OPERATIONS.

2. PICKET WELCOMED SUGGESTION LINDT NOT BE ON INITIAL FLIGHT OF NEW SERIES OF FLIGHTS, TWO'S OBSERVED GOWON ALREADY ADVISED LINDT INTENDED BE ON FLIGHT, THOUGH, HOWEVER, MIGHT BE WISE NOT TO REFER TO LINDT'S PRESENCE ON FLIGHT IN PRESS STATEMENT. PICKET APPRECIATED NEED MESSEN SENSE OF ICRC-FNG CONFRONTATION. DISTURBED BY REPORT GOWON LAST NIGHT HAD MADE VIOLENT RADIO STATEMENT ALLEGING SCAN FIGHTERS PLANS WOULD EXCORT RED CROSS PLANES (YESTERDAY SWEDZ REP TOLD ME "SOME PEOPLE AT HOME EVEN THINK OUR PLANES SHOULD HAVE FIGHTER EXCORTS" INDICATED NO INTENTION WHATEVER THIS BE DONE.)

3. RE 36 REFTEL AND NIGHT FLIGHTS OBLIGE, PICKET SAID THIS

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GENEVA-4635
9-168

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

PAGE 02 GENEVA 240000

FIELD NOT BE OPERATIONAL TO SUCH FLIGHTS FOR WEEKS.)

4. PICTET SAID NIGHT FLIGHTS INTO ULI BECOMING MORE AND MORE DANGEROUS, WITH MANY MILITARY SUPPLY PLANES, "COMING IN RIGHT AFTER US".

5. PRESS STATEMENT TOMORROW POINT WILL BE MADE RE ICRC RELIEF EFFORTS ON NIGERIAN SOIL WITH TEN TEAMS DISTRIBUTING SUPPLIES. THIS TO INDICATE THE INTEREST IN HELPING PEOPLE BOTH SIDES. PICTET NOTED THAT ON AUGUST 15 GOWON HAD WRITTEN TO PRAISE "THE HARD AND EFFECTIVE WORK" BEING DONE UNDER ICRC AUSPICES IN LIBERATED AREAS NIGERIA AND EXPRESSED HIS CONFIDENCE IN ICRC.

6. PICTET SAID "DOOR NOT SLAMMED", THAT HOPES AGREEMENT BE REACHED TODAY IN ADDITION SKEPTICAL.

7. PICTET SAID ICRC REALIZES MIGHT BE KICKED OUT OF NIGERIA, THAT PLANES MIGHT BE FIRED ON OR THAT AIRSTRIPS BE HEAVILY BOMBED. NEVERTHELESS IT SHOULD DELAY NO LONGER IN TRYING TO GET LARGER FLOW SUPPLIES BY AIR INTO BIAFRAN TERRITORY. COMMITTEE HOPES THAT STRONG APPEALS TO GOWON BY SCANS, OTHER GOVTS, INCLUDING U.S. NOT TO INTERFERE IN FLIGHTS WILL BE EFFECTIVE.
TUBBY

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MM/ARA Date 10/5/05

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

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Classification

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS IMMEDIATE

Info

INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY
Amembassy LONDON PRIORITY
* USMission GENEVA PRIORITY
USUN - PRIORITY

STATE

REFERENCE: (a) LONDON 12294; (b) LAGOS 12260; (c) ADDIS
ABABA 5522; (d) ADDIS ABABA 5520

SUBJECT: ICRC FLIGHTS TO BIAFRA

1. You should inform Arikpo at earliest opportunity of following, emphasizing our strong view that Nigerian attack on ICRC air-craft would have grave and far-reaching consequences.
2. We have, as Arikpo knows, supported concept of land or water corridor as most practicable means of moving relief supplies in needed quantities. In absence agreement on such a corridor, however, fundamental and urgent humanitarian concerns have caused ICRC to conclude that it can no longer delay start of daytime flights ^{on} ~~and~~ provisional and temporary basis to alleviate suffering of innocent civilians. ICRC has established conditions of control which we are confident will succeed ~~in~~

Drafted by:

AFW:RPSmith:chg:9/1/68

Clearances:

Tel. Ext.

6402

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

RMMelbourne - Nigerian
Task Force

AF: Mr. Palmer (subs.) *Rm*

AF: Ambassador Moore (draft) *Rm*

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FORM DS-322
8-65

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

XPOL 27-14 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

231398

BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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Authority VND 954503
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Page 2 of telegram to Amembassy LAGOS IMMEDIATE

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in protecting FMG against abuses.

3. You should add that public opinion in U.S. and elsewhere has welcomed FMG initiative in inviting international observers to accompany its troops into Biafra. (although ref. reports adverse IEG reaction). FMG action to shoot down or ~~obstruct~~ ^{obstruct} proposed ICRC flights would nullify very favorable impact of this ~~xxxxx~~ initiative and greatly arouse world opinion. Given obviously humanitarian motives for these flights and in light categorical ICRC assurances that they will be used only for relief supplies, USG fervently hopes for FMG approval or at least tacit acceptance. Believe such action would be clearly to advantage of FMG and be strongly welcomed and supported by all friends of Nigeria.

4. FOR LONDON - You may inform British of above in response ref. (a).

end

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FORM DS-322A
8-63
CONTINUATION SHEET

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PL 279 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 05524 012028Z

91
ACTION SS 70

INFO CCO 00,SSO 00,NSCE 00,DODE 00,CIAE 00,USIE 00,1070 W

0 011825Z SEPT 68
FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6880
INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
UNMISSION USUN 401

S E C R E T ADDIS ABABA 5524
SUBJECT: NIGERIA RELIEF
REF STATE 231363

1. MINSTATE FONAFF TESFAYE IN RUNDOWN NEGOTIATIONS LATE THIS AFTERNOON REPORTED ALL DAY SESSION YESTERDAY SEPARATELY WITH TWO PARTIES AGAIN COVERED HIM'S PROPOSALS BUT WITH EMPHASIS ON EMERGENCY ACTION. EVENING SESSION DEVOTED ALMOST ENTIRELY TO URGIN FMG DELEGATION TO ACCEPT TEN DAY AIRLIFT FROM FERNANDO PO TO OGILAGO (UTURU) WITH OAU/RED CROSS SUPERVISION UNTIL TGHET ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE WORKED OUT. MAIN ARGUMENTS WERE RELIEF OF FMG FROM OUTSIDE CRITICISM, IMPROVED POSITION AT ALGIERS AND IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE TO CHILDREN AND OTHER NON-COMBATANTS. BECAUSE HIM DOUBTS FMG DELEGATION REPORTING ACCURATELY TO LAGOS, HE HAS ASKED US SEND MESSAGE FOR DELIVERY GOWON REITERATING MAIN POINTS (ADDIS 5523).

2. ON AIR CORRIDOR PROPOSALS FMG HAS REJECTED USE OBILAGO (UTURU) AIRPORT AND DEMANDED USE ANNABELLE AIRPORT. BIAFRANS HAVE REJECTED LANDINGS AT LAGOS AND DEMANDED DIRECT FLIGHTS FROM FERNANDO PO. FMG HAS INSISTED TWO WEEKLY RENEWALS ON AIR CORRIDOR. TESFAYE BELIEVES IF FMG WOULD ACCEPT OBILAGO BIAFRANS WOULD PROBABLY GIVE UP OPPOSITION TO LANDINGS AT LAGOS.

3. ON LAND CORRIDORS BIAFRANS REJECT ENUGU AND ASSABE LAND ROUTES AND INSIST ON BURUTU BARGE ROUTE. FEDERALS ACCEPT ENUGU AND ASSABE ROUTES BUT INSIST

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SUBSTITUTION WARRI THENCE ASSABA AND DOWN TO OBOGI AREA FOR BURUTU BARGE ROUTE.

4. ON SIMULTANEOUS BEGINNING, FMG HAS INDICATED AIR CORRIDOR COULD BEGIN IMMEDIATELY IF BEGINNING MADE ON LAND CORRIDOR BY STARTING FEW TRUCKS OR BARGES.

5. TEFAYE SAYS IEG SIDE HAS EXHAUSTED ITS AMMUNITION WITH APPEAL TO GOWON. NEXT MEETING WITH PARTIES SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY AFTERNOON AT WHICH TIME THEY EXPECT RECEIVE REPLY FROM FMG ON EMERGENCY TEN DAY AIR CORRIDOR. IF THIS NOT FORTHCOMING, HIM HOPES FMG AT LEAST WILL ACCEPT AIR CORRIDOR VIA LAGOS AND TO ANNABELLE WITHOUT CONDITIONS.

6. ALTHOUGH I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE DISCUSS LINDT PROPOSAL AS OUTLINED TO ME WITH TEFAYE BECAUSE OF LINDT'S INJUNCTION OUR CONVERSATION NOT BE REVEALED TO IEG, IT IS MY IMPRESSION LINDT'S PROPOSALS HAVE NOT BEEN PUT FORWARD BY HIM OR IEG IN FORM LINDT PROPOSED, BUT RATHER SET FORTH ORALLY IN REVIEW OF POSSIBLE COMBINATIONS WITH TWO PARTIES. TEFAYE STATES NEITHER SIDE HAS SHOWN ANY GENUINE INTEREST IN REACHING SOLUTION, BUT INSTEAD EACH TIME AS COMMON GROUND EMERGES THEY BOTH RETREAT AND THROW UP NEW OBSTACLES.

7. TEFAYE INQUIRED WHETHER U.S. WOULD BE PREPARED SUPPORT HIM'S PLEA TO GOWON FOR TEMPORARY TEN DAY AUTHORIZATION AIR CORRIDOR TO OBILAGO EITHER FORMALLY OR INFORMALLY, IN LAGOS OR IN WASHINGTON. I TOLD HIM I WOULD PASS HIS REQUEST TO WASHINGTON. IEG PLANS SIMILAR APPROACH TO UK THIS EVENING OR TOMORROW AND RECOGNIZES UK HAS GREATER INFLUENCE WITH FMG THAN WE DO.

8. I AM DOUBTFUL THAT ANY AGREEMENT LIKELY EMERGE HERE MONDAY AFTERNOON, BUT TEFAYE HAS PROMISED INFORM ME AND I HAVE OFFERED ASSIST IN COMMUNICATING WITH LINDT SHOULD DEVELOPMENTS REQUIRE.

9. IF THE RELATIONSHIPS IN LAGOS PERMIT, I RECOMMEND WE SUPPORT HIM'S PROPOSAL PER REQUEST PARA 7. IT WOULD PROVIDE TIME FOR FURTHER EFFORTS BY HIM, DEFUSE THE CONFRONTATION BETWEEN FMG AND RED CROSS, AND GREATLY

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IMPROVE NIGERIA'S POSITION AT ALGIERS.

10. I BELIEVE WE SHOULD MAKE EFFORT AT SAME TIME TO CONVINCE LINDT THAT HE POSTPONE BY DAY OR TWO HIS PROPOSED ANNOUNCEMENT SCHEDULED FOR MONDAY RE DAY FLIGHTS INTO BIAFRA AND ACTUAL COMMENCEMENT FLIGHTS PROPOSED FOR TUESDAY. THIS WOULD GIVE CHANCE FOR FMG RESPOND HIM'S APPEAL TONIGHT TO GOWON AND AVOID SHORT-CIRCUITING HIS FINAL EFFORT TO BRING ABOUT RELIEF FLIGHT PATTERN ACCEPTABLE BOTH SIDES UNDER AEGIS OAU.

11. OAU REACTION TO COMMENCEMENT ICRC DAY FLIGHTS WITHOUT FMG CONCURRENCE WOULD NO DOUBT BE MIXED. THERE IS LESS CONCERN AMONG AFRICANS THAN IN WEST WITH HUMANITARIAN SIDE OF RELIEF OPERATION, AND EXAMPLE OF WESTERN-LED RELIEF EFFORTS BEING FORCED ON AFRICAN STATE AGAINST ITS WILL WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY GIVE RISE TO GRUMBLING AT ALGIERS ESPECIALLY IF FMG WERE TO VOICE COMPLAINT. LONGER-TERM EFFECT COULD BE ADVERSE TO FUTURE ICRC IN AFRICAN AND INCREASE, TO SOME DEGREE CONCERN RE WHAT AFRICANS TEND TO CONSIDER PROCLIVITY WESTERNERS TO INTERVENE UNILATERALLY IN THEIR AFFAIRS. ABOVE ASSESSMENT WOULD NOT APPLY IF FMG SHOULD SHOOT DOWN ICRC PLW3. HALL

NOTE: HANDLED LIMDIS PER S/S-0

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(Time Received)

SERIAL 5524

1968 SEP 1 PM 6 38

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MONTHLY COUNT 036

Secretariat

S/S-S 1
S/S-O 1
S/S-Screener 3
S/S-EX 3
S/S-CMS 3
S/S-O DIR ✓
MilRep ✓
Summary ✓
Task Force ✓

Geographic

AF5 X5
ARA9 ✓
EA11 ✓
EUR9 ✓
NEA 7

Other

ACDA 5
AID/EXSEC 3
AA/AFR2 2
AA/VN 2
AA/EA 3
AA/NESA 2

Functional

CU ✓
E2 ✓
H ✓
IGA ✓
INR 6
IO4 ✓
L2 ✓
O3 ✓
OPR ✓
OC ✓
SY ✓
WLG ✓
P2 ✓
SCA ✓
SCS ✓
SCI ✓

PC ✓
VP ✓
AEC 3
AGR 3
COM 2
EXIM ✓
FRB ✓
LAB ✓
NASA ✓
NIC ✓
STR ✓
TRANS ✓
TRSY 6
JUS ✓
IRS ✓
INT ✓
BOB ✓
FBI ✓
CEA ✓
FAA ✓
File ✓
Burned ✓

Principals

ES 2
S ✓
U ✓
M 2
G ✓
SIG ✓
S/AH 3
S/AL ✓
SA ✓
S/CPR ✓
S/GOV ✓
S/IL ✓
S/P ✓
S/R ✓
S/FW ✓
S/PM ✓
M/WP ✓
G/PM ✓

OTHER AGENCIES

WH10 P 10
CIA P
DOD P
USIA P
NSA P

0822

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 954503
By MVA Date 10/5/05

37



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 318

PAGE 01 LAGOS 12262 012212Z

91
ACTION SS 70

INFO CCO 00, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00, /070 W

O 012135Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2340

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 12262

LIMDIS

SUBJECT: HIM MESSAGE TO GOWON

REF: ADDIS ABABA 5523. - Pol 27-9 Biafra. Nigeria

1. MESSAGE DELIVERED TO ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR AT 2130 LOCAL (2030Z).

2. AMBASSADOR SAID HE WOULD TRY TO REACH GOWON TOMORROW (SEPT. 2).

3. AMBASSADOR WILL GIVE US REPLY (IF ANY) FOR TRANSMISSION AFTER HE SEES GOWON.
MATHEWS

Aug 12 262
9-1-68

MICROFILMED BY NSA

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L I M D I S
I N C O M I N G

TOP SECRET

Screened

POST

LAGOS

(Time Received)

SERIAL

12262

1968 SEP 1 PM 6 54

DISTRIBUTION

MONTHLY COUNT

638

Secretariat

Geographic

Other

S/S-S 1
S/S-O 1
S/S-Screener 3
S/S-EX
S/S-CMS
S/S-O DIR
MilRep
Summary
Task Force

AF5 X
ARA 9
EA II
EUR 9
NEA 7

ACDA 5
AID/EXSEC 3
AA/AFR2
AA/VN 2
AA/EA 3
AA/NESA 2

Functional

Principals

ES 2
S
U
M 2
G

CU
E 2
H
IGA
INR 6
IO 4
L 2
O 3

PC
VP

SIG
S/AH 3
S/AL
SA
S/CPR
S/GOV
S/IL
S/P
S/R
S/FW
S/PM
M/WP
G/PM

OPR
OC
SY
WLG
P 2
SCA
SCS
SCI

AEC 3
AGR 3
COM 2
EXTM
FRB
LAB
NASA
NIC
STR
TRANS
TRSY 6
JUS
IRS
INT
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FBI
CEA
FAA

OTHER AGENCIES

WH 10
CIA
DOD
USIA 4
NSA

File
Burned

0824

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37:



FOL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
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PAGE 01 ADDIS 05523 011727Z

#0
 ACTION SS 70

INFO SSD 00, /070 W

O 011630Z SEPT 68
 FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
 TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
 INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6879

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 5523

LIMDIS

HIM THROUGH MIN STATE FOR AFF REQUESTS FOL BE DELIVERED
 TO ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR:

QTE MOST IMMEDIATE. MOST CONFIDENTIAL. H.E. AMBASSADOR
 ARAYA UKGBAEGZY, ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR, LAGOS, NIGERIA. PLEASE
 DELIVER FOL MSG AND ADVISE TIME OF DELIVERY:
 INNER QTE H.E. MAJOR GENERAL GOWON, HEAD OF FEDERAL MILITARY
 GOVT., FEDERAL REP OF NIGERIA, LAGOS.

YOUR EXCELLENCY, IT IS, I BELIEVE, ACCEPTED BY THOSE DIRECTLY CONCERNED THAT THE VICTIMS OF THE CONFLICT NEED RELIEF MOST URGENTLY. IT IS ALSO CLEAR THAT THE QUESTION OF HUMANITARIAN RELIEF TO THE NEEDY HAS BECOME AN OVERWHELMING CONCERN TO THE ENTIRE WORLD. I BELIEVE THAT RUSHING RELIEF BY AIR, LAND AND SEA TO THE VICTIMS AND ALLEVIATION OF THEIR SUFFERING WILL HELP US ACHIEVE THAT POLITICAL SETTLEMENT WHICH IS EXPRESSLY GIVEN TO THE OAU CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE. YOUR EXCELLENCY IS AWARE THOUGH WE HAVE SPENT FOUR WEEKS IN SEARCH OF A FORMULA TO SOLVE THIS QUESTION, WE HAVE SO FAR MADE LITTLE PROGRESS. ACCORDINGLY I HAVE LAST THURSDAY SUBMITTED A SECOND SET OF PROPOSALS ON LAND AND AIR CORRIDORS. YOUR DELEGATION HAS ACCEPTED BOTH PROPOSALS WITH THE PROVISIO ON THE AIR CORRIDOR PROPOSAL THAT THE AIRSTRIP ON THE OTHER SIDE SHOULD BE IN THE LI COMPLEX ARS, BUT NOT OBILAGO; AND ON LAND CORRIDOR WITH THE PROVISIO THAT PARAGRAPH 2B IN MY PROPOSAL SHOULD BE REPLACED BY A PROPOSAL ON YOUR DELEGATION. I HAVE EXPLAINED AT LENGTH TO YOUR DELEGATION THE ADVANTAGE TO YOUR COUNTRY OF ACCEPTING THE PROPOSAL ON LAND CORRIDOR AS IT IS. I BELIEVE THAT MY VIEWS IN THIS REGARD HAVE

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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ADDIS 05523 011727Z

BEEN COMMUNICATED TO YOUR EXCELLENCY. AS REGARDS OUR PROPOSAL ON AIR CORRIDOR I WISH TO EMPHASIZE TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT IT WOULD BE TO THE GREAT ADVANTAGE OF NIGERIA WERE YOU TO ACCEPT FURTHER, UNDER MY AIR CORRIDOR ARRANGEMENT, DIRECT FLIGHT FROM FERNANDO PO TO OBILAGO AIRSTRIP FOR TEN WORKING DAYS. I BELIEVE THAT SUCH A GESTURE ON YOUR PART TO WORLD PUBLIC OPINION ON THE EVE OF THE OAU SUMMIT WOULD PUT YOUR COUNTRY IN A MOST FAVOURABLE POSITION. WE UNDERSTAND THAT MANY RELIEF AGENCIES INCLUDING THE RED CROSS, INTEND TO TRANSPORT RELIEF DIRECT FROM FERNANDO PO TO OBILAGO AIRPORT. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES I BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE IN THE INTEREST OF NIGERIA TO HAVE THE TRANSPORTATION OF SUCH RELIEF TO BE UNDER THE CONTROL AND SUPERVISION OF THE SYSTEM PROPOSED BY ME. IF HOWEVER YOU CANNOT GIVE THIS CONCESSION, I URGE YOU TO ACCEPT MY AIR CORRIDOR PROPOSAL. AS YOUR EXCELLENCY KNOWS, I SHARE IN FULL THE ASPIRATION OF THE PEOPLE OF NIGERIA TO MAINTAIN THEIR UNITY AND TO RESOLVE THIS CRISIS HONOURABLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MANDATE OF THE OAU. TO ENABLE US TO HELP IN THE ATTAINMENT OF THIS OBJECTIVE, THE FEDERAL GOVT OF NIGERIA MUST HELP US REMOVE FROM THE POLITICAL ARENA THE QUESTION OF RELIEF TO THE VICTIMS OF THE CONFLICT. HERE I WISH YOUR EXCELLENCY TO SHARE MY CONVICTION THAT IF THE QUESTION OF RELIEF IS SETTLED EVEN BY TEMPORARY MEANS AS I HAVE SUGGESTED ABOVE, THE POLITICAL ASPECT OF THE QUESTION WOULD BE LESS DIFFICULT TO HANDLE AT THE FIFTH OAU SUMMIT. AS I HAD OCCASION TO STATE IT GENERALLY IN MY TELEGRAM OF AUG 13, 1968, IT IS IN THE INTEREST OF NIGERIA AND HER ASPIRATION TO REMOVE THIS QUESTION FROM THE HEADLINES OF THE WORLD PRESS SO THAT WE CAN CONCENTRATE ON THE SUBSTANTIAL ASPECT OF THE ISSUE. LET YOUR DEVOTION TO THE WELLBEING OF THE PEOPLE OF NIGERIA BE FURTHER FORTIFIED BY A CONCRETE STEP EVEN IF IT MEANS SOME SACRIFICE. I WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING IMMEDIATELY YOUR REPLY TO MY PROPOSALS. PLEASE ACCEPT EXCELLENCY THE ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST AND FRATERNAL ESTEEM. YOUR GOOD FRIEND, HAILE SELASSIE I EMPEROR. END INNER QTE END QTE. HALL

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By	MWARA
Date	10/5/05

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POST ADDIS ABABA

(Time Received)

SERIAL 5523

1968 SEP 1 PM 2 32

DISTRIBUTION

MONTHLY COUNT

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Secretariat

S/S-S
S/S-O
S/S-Screener 3
S/S-EX
S/S-CMS
S/S-O DTR
MilRep
Summary
Task Force

Geographic

AF5
ARA 9
EA 11
EUR 9
NEA 7

Other

ACDA 5
AID/EXSEC 3
AA/AFR2
AA/VN 2
AA/EA 3
AA/NESA 2

Functional

CU
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AEC 3
AGR 3
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TRSY 6
JUS
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FBI
CEA
FAA

Principals

ES 2
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S/AH 3
S/AL
SA
S/CPR
S/GOV
S/IL
S/P
S/R
S/FW
S/PM
M/WP
G/PM

OTHER AGENCIES

WH 10
CIA 1
DOD
USIA 4
NSA

File
Burned

0827

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By M/NARA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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SECRET 258

PAGE 01 LONDON 12294 011327Z

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, SCS 04, SCA 02, SR 01, ORM 03, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00,

CIAE 00, DODE 00, CCO 00, GPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS: 25, RSC 01, L 03,

H 02, P 04, INR 07, SAL 01, SAH 02, E 15, AID 28, ACDA 16, RSR 01, 174 W

O P 011314Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5826
INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
USMISSION USUN NY

SECRET LONDON 12294

SUBJ: NIGERIA RELIEF

REF: DEPTS 231363 POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

1. COMMONWEALTH OFFICES MOBERLY ADVISES US THAT HMG IS IN PROCESS OF TRANSMITTING INSTRUCTIONS TO BRITISH REPS GENEVA AND LAGOS. FORMER IS INSTRUCTED TO INFORM ICRC THAT BRITISH BELIEVE IT ESSENTIAL FOR LINDT TO TALK TO FMG BEFORE LAUNCHING DAYLIGHT AIRLIFT ON TUESDAY. BRITISH HICOM LAGOS IS BEING INSTRUCTED TELL FMG THAT DEMARCHE BEING MADE GENEVA BUT TO TELL FMG THAT, WHATEVER RESULT OF GENEVA DEMARCHE MAY BE, IT WOULD BE DISASTROUS IF FMG SHOT DOWN OR BOMBED ICRC AIRCRAFT.

2. MOBERLY DID NOT ENTERTAIN ANY ILLUSIONS ABOUT LIKE LIHOOD ICRC COULD BE PERSUADED TO DELAY OPERATION AT THIS LATE DATE. HE BELIEVED, HOWEVER, THAT BRITISH ARGUMENTS IN LAGOS WOULD HAVE MORE FORCE IF BRITISH HICOM ABLE TO SAY BRITS HAD SPOKEN TO ICRC.

3. BRITISH WILL OF COURSE BE ANXIOUS TO KNOW WHETHER WE INTEND TO MAKE SIMILAR DEMARCHE LAGOS.
BRUCE

SECRET

0020

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ACTION AF 15

INFO EUR 15, IO 13, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIF 00,
GPM 04, NSC 10, SP 02, SS 25, RSC 01, L 03, H 02, P 04, INR 07, CCC 00,
SCS 04, SCA 02, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, E 15, ACDA 16, RSR 01, 171 W

O 011310Z SEP 68
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2338
INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
USUN NY 418
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

S E C R E T LAGOS 12260

SUBJECT: NIGERIAN RELIEF

REFERENCE: STATE 231363; GENEVA 4635

1. IDEAS ADVANCED PARA 2(B) AND 2(C) STRIKE US AS VERY
USEFUL. GOWON STATEMENT LAST NIGHT (SEE FBIS FOR TEXT) THAT
FMG "WILL APPROVE A NEUTRALIZED AIR STRIP IN THE JLI-IHIALA
AREA UNDER STRICT CONDITIONS OF CONTROL" IS ANOTHER FACTOR
WHICH WE BELIEVE LINDT SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT BEFORE PURSUING
COURSE HE HAS OUTLINED. MAY BE USEFUL FOR GENEVA ASSURE
THIS POINT MADE TO ICRC ALSO.

2. BOTH WE AND UKHC HAVE GRAVE DOUBT EFFECTIVENESS OF FURTHER
APPROACH TO FMG. DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE NOTED, OF COURSE, IMPLI-
CATIONS OF WHAT PICKET HIMSELF REPORTS PARAS 3 AND 4 GENEVA'S
4635.
MATHEWS

SECRET

0829

